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AGRICULTURE.

BERMUDA GRASS,—WIRE GRASS.

An eminent writer on Agriculture, Edward Ruffin of Virginia, inquires in the Southern Cultivator, published at Augusta, Georgia, whether the famous "Bermuda Grass" which has been much extolled, is not identical with the "Wire Grass"—the grass which proves more troublesome to farmers than any that they have ever attempted to exterminate.

Mr. Ruffin says they are pronounced to be one and the same by Professor Tuomy, and by Rev. M. A. Curtis of North Carolina. We learn that great pains have been taken at the South to propogate the Bermuda Grass. If it proves to be the same as wire grass some farmers will be sorry for their pains.

TRIAL OF PLOUGHS.

It seems there has been a trial of ploughs at Northampton, and that Prouty & Co's obtained the premium, though there was no competition. These were the only ploughs tried by the Committee.

Much is said in the Report of the importance of a "Centre Draft." Does the Committee intend us to understand that the iron rod running along under the beam makes any difference in the draft? If so, what is that difference? According to our notions a well balanced plough has a "Centre Draft" when the draft is by the beam alone. Can any one tell what difference the *iron rod* along the beam can possibly make? Prouty & Co. could never explain this matter to our satisfaction, and we believe it is still a mystery.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Ploughman.

RENOVATION OF PASTURES.

Mr. Editor,—I send you enclosed two dollars for the *Ploughman*, another year. I would not willingly dispense with it, at least, till I can find an agricultural paper which I think is better. I am particularly pleased with your straightforward, business-like answers to the many questions proposed by your numerous correspondents: they evince a knowledge of agriculture in its details, and stamp a value upon your paper which it would not possess, were it only a *medium for the views of others*.

I also ask a few questions: I wish for your opinion of reclaiming worn out pastures. I have some pasture land very rocky and moist, and much over run with hardhacks and pod. Is it worth reclaiming for pasture? and how can it be done? Or would it be best to let it run up with white pines, as it seems much inclined to do?

I have some other pasture, of rather light but warm soil, and not so rough but what it can be comfortably ploughed. A piece of this I ploughed some eight or ten years since, which produced but very little except chookerberries and hog brakes; in the course of the first season I ploughed it three times, but put in no crop. The next spring, it having become well pulverized, I planted it with Chenango Potatoes, using plaster, but no manure. I had only about 75 or 80 bushels per acre,—but they were of good size, and the best potatoes for the table that I ever raised.—Having dug the potatoes early, I sowed it with winter rye and grass seed. The crop of rye was very good for ploughed ground, and it has since produced much more and sweeter feed than any other part of the pasture. Will the grass succeed better, and is it more profitable to feed off a crop of rye on land intended for pasture, than to let it come to maturity and harvest it?

Yours, &c., J. WOOD.
Royalston, Dec. 31, 1849.

☞ Farmers often hesitate in regard to the management of their old pasture grounds. One difficulty stares many in the face. If they plough a part they think they shall be obliged to fence off and plant. The cost of fencing in many places is considerable, and they would avoid it.

But why plant the ground? Why not plough, cross plough, and sow down in August, either with grain or without it. Then there will be no need of fencing. Our correspondent planted his land with potatoes when he had no manure to spare for them. Probably his potatoes repaid the labor, but then they tended to exhaust the land. We cannot doubt that grass seed sown alone in August, after the summer tilling, would have yielded much more without any potatoes or grain either.

Grain and grass seed might have been sowed together, in August, without any division fence; for it is quite common to turn the cattle out of the summer pastures in September to live on the fall feed. They may be turned back again in October without great injury to the rye or the grass.

Many of our old pastures have lain so long that they produce but very little. Some farmers within 20 or 30 miles of Boston permit the young pines and birches to come in and occupy the ground. In many cases this may be the best policy. Much of our pasture land should never have been cleared. Very rocky, rough, and ledgy land gives more profit in wood and timber than in tilled crops or in pasture. Good judgment is needed to determine, under all the circumstances of a case.

In some places pasture is in more demand than in others. Some old pasture grounds are renovated by a very cheap application of plaster. Fifty cents will buy two bushels at least, and this is enough for one acre. This is the cheapest mode, when plaster suits the soil, that has yet been tested in New England, and most of the lands of Worcester county are benefited much by sowing this article.

As to feeding off the rye instead of reaping it to save the grain, there can be no doubt that the soil is less exhausted by feeding it than by reaping. We should be cautious about carrying away crops from land that is not to be manured.—[Editor.

Incombustible Cloth. At a meeting of the British Association, Sir David Brewster read a paper "On a specimen of incombustible cloth, for the dresses of ladies and children, manufactured in Dundee by Mr. Latta." The cloth, of printed calico, of which several specimens were exhibited, was prepared by immersion in phosphate of magnesia. When inflamed, it soon went out without the flame spreading, and Sir David stated that a spark of redhot coal would not ignite it.

[For the Ploughman.]

TRIMMING TREES.

Mr. Editor,—In answer to the inquiry in the communication of Mr. W. Allen, of Spencer, in the December 29th No. of your paper, I think nature is the best guide. If, in a thick growth of young pine trees, we go with an axe and remove a portion of them, we shall be liable to cut those that are destined to live and make timber.—Whereas, if we let the growth take it's natural course, a certain portion of the trees will die of their own accord, and leave just space enough for the strongest and thriftiest to grow. For instance:—In a thick growth of young white pines on a farm in this place, the owner concluded that there were more trees than could live and thrive; he therefore went and "thinned out," as he supposed, enough of the trees to give the remainder a chance to grow: the consequence was that the remaining trees, from some cause, all died, so that the owner had the misfortune to be obliged to cut all the trees in his once thriving young wood lot.

The first cause of the remainder of the trees dying so, was, without doubt, the premature removal of a part of the growth. If he had left the lot to itself, it would undoubtedly have "trimmed and thinned" itself sufficiently. It would have done it also gradually without injury to the remaining trees. This seems to be a universal law of nature in almost all classes of the vegetable as well as the animal kingdom. In the human race one third of those born are known to die in childhood: now, suppose people should say "we will thin out this one third as soon as born, and not be troubled with them." It would be strange if they did not destroy some that would live if let alone, and it would be natural to suppose that many that they let live would die in childhood as they now do: so that in "thinning out" the "one third," they would in fact destroy a much greater proportion.

In regard to trimming, let the limbs remain on the trees until nature does it. If so left to nature, the limbs will die and drop off gradually, and at the same time the tree will heal over slowly and remain sound throughout; whereas, if the trees are trimmed with an axe, leaving the end of a knot or stub exposed to the weather, it will become partially decayed by the time the growth of the tree closes over it, thus leaving a loose dead substance in the centre of the tree to decay itself, and cause more or less decay in the sound parts around it. This fact was noticed last winter in a lot of logs carried to one of our mills to be sawed into boards. The print of the axe was seen in the boards after they were sawed, where the trees had been trimmed some twenty or forty years before; and the decay, caused by the dead knots and the injury the trees sustained from the axe, damaged the quality of the boards very materially. From this we infer that if the tree is trimmed of its green limbs, the knots will be loose in the boards: and furthermore, if the tree is not trimmed, the knots will be sound or "tight knots" in the board; the cause of this is that the limb commences to die at the end, and dies gradually towards the trunk: and in consequence of this, the knot in the body of the tree will be full of pitch and hard, and this will cause the knot in the boards to be sound or "tight." Another fact,—a green limb, twisted or broken off by the wind high up in the tree, will cause a rot to commence at the heart, where the limb is broken off, and extend to the ground. This fact the choppers have noticed frequently, and is owing probably to decay of the knot, and thence admitting water and air to the heart of the tree, and in process of time, water and decay will extend in the heart from the knot to the bottom of the tree. Trimming undoubtedly has the same effect in many instances.

Why is it that the old growth of lumber in Maine is so much better than the new or later growth of trees in this region? Is it not that the trees have attained maturity under nature's laws and are sound in the centre? Do you suppose that those trees were "trimmed" or "thinned out" by man, or needed anything of the kind when they were young? I do not; but I suppose that the thriftiest grew while the feeble ones died to make room for them.

Lest any one should say, well, Tewksbury is writing for lots calculated for board-log trees and not for fire-wood trees. I will say that a tree before it is fit for boards must of course be good fire-wood.

Mr. Editor, I do not know but you will have to trim and "thin out" my communication, for I am almost ashamed of its length myself—but do with it as you please. TEWKSBURY.
Tewksbury, Mass., Dec. 31, 1849.

☞ Our correspondent would not probably like to carry out his theory—or apply it to all kinds of vegetable growth. He would not let his corn stalks or turnips stand as thick as they sometimes start up. What will he say of fruit trees? Shall they be trimmed or not? And why? His reasoning goes to show that trees at least, if not other plants, will take care that the growth shall not be too thick. There are men who object to trimming apple trees, contending that they have no more limbs than nature intended them to have.—[Editor.

[For the Ploughman.]

CORN MEASUREMENT.

Mr. Editor,—In the commentaries upon the Plymouth Corn, in your paper of this date, the produce is stated to have been 141 bushels to the acre, in one place, and only 114 bushels to the acre in another. The change of position of the figures, may make all the difference between *credible* and *incredible*, in the statements. That *one hundred bushels* to the acre, and more, have repeatedly been grown in this State, I have no doubt;—but that *one hundred and forty bushels* of corn to the acre has been so grown, is beyond anything I have ever witnessed. I have seen fields that yielded one hundred bushels to the acre upon fair measurement—one such in the town of Newbury, the present season—cultivated by Mr. Foss, on the Colman Farms. Several other fields in the county of Essex have yielded between 90 and 100 bushels to the acre. I heartily concur in your suggestions as to the use of care and accuracy in the measurement of crops.

A Constant Reader of your Paper.
January 12, 1850.

☞ If our correspondent will re-examine the article referred to he will see that 141 bushels are the reported quantity for one acre (Mr. Whitman's) and 114 bushels for another man's acre, *where* the hills were actually counted, and where just 160th part of the number of hills were *counted* for one square rod.

The report from Plymouth county intended 141 bushels (one hundred and forty-one) because it refers to a less crop that obtained the premium in the preceding year, that is, about 130 bushels to the acre.

It must be quite difficult to measure off an average square rod of corn from an acre. We know not who would swear to such measurement without counting the hills included in the rod. No two men would be likely to measure alike. The *ground* is measured easily enough—but the *corn* is the article wanted.

We think any Committee would give more satisfaction to farmers by selecting a whole row of corn through the field, and measuring that corn in baskets—shelling out one basket,—than by measuring off one rod of ground and measuring, or weighing, the corn that happened to grow on that rod.

If the field is 20 rods long and 8 rods wide, one row across the field would be a hundredth part of the acre (hills at common distance) or a row lengthwise would be a fortieth part of the acre. Thus if the field was in drills we could come pretty near the truth. [Editor.

[For the Ploughman.]

THINNING FORESTS.

Mr. Editor,

In reading your valuable paper I noticed you wished to bring out the views of some one on the expediency of trimming young growth of wood. I therefore send you the following. I think the practice of trimming young wood is not favorable to its growth for the following reasons.

In the first place, all the lower branches and a great many young trees die away and drop to the ground, get covered with leaves, are decomposed and form food for those that remain. Whereas if they are cut and carted away it is just so much taken from the soil.

In the second place, the leaves from the trees also operate as a fertilizer on the soil. And where we cut off the lower branches, thin out the trees and cut down the bushes, such as with wood blueberrys, and others, it gives the wind a chance to blow a great many leaves out into the open land, or into rivers, meadows, and small valleys, especially if the wood-lot consist of only a few acres.

Who has not noticed on a windy day that the thicker the undergrowth on wood-land, the more the current of air is checked near the ground?

In the third place there is other matter beside the leaves of trees moved with the wind, such as the dust which is blown from the roads and fields, light weeds and other substances too numerous to mention, which are deposited wherever an obstacle intercepts them. And is it not probable that this is the reason why the land is more fertile beside a stone wall, than elsewhere? We are all aware that small objects that float with the wind when they strike the water settle into it. Our meadows and peat lands were once probably small lakes and the wind as well as the streams of water which run into them has contributed to fill them with vegetable matter to make them what they are.

The reason I made my last observation is to support my argument that the undergrowth forms an obstacle to check whatever is floating in the atmosphere. Some have said that it is better to thin out so as to let the sun's rays in, but it seems to me as though nature had clothed the trees with leaves on purpose to keep the sun from drying up the moisture about their roots, and we all know they require a great deal of moisture to support them.

I am in hopes to hear from some one else on this subject, as our woodlots are of great importance for timber and fuel. CHIPS.
West Newton, Jan. 12, 1850.

☞ It is decidedly bad policy to thin out forests so much as to let the leaves blow away. [Editor.

[For the Ploughman.]

THINNING WOOD-LOTS.

Mr. Editor,—I herewith send you a few practical hints on the propriety of thinning and pruning young wood-lots.

In the first place, I would advise all whom it may concern never to *prune* or lop off any of the *live* wood of a White Pine tree, for it cannot be made more valuable as far as the uses of the wood go by pruning; *a living branch* cannot be cut from the tree without a corresponding injury, neither can the branches be shortened without any good result arising therefrom; a *wide* spreading tree, however beautiful as a single object, will never make such valuable wood for the workshop as one of a close compact growth. A straight luxuriant growth thickly set with medium sized wood or branches from the *base* to the *top*, is the criterion of a valuable tree for timber. In the thinning out of white pine lots, wide spreading trees where they are injuring those of more value for timber, must be cut down to the ground, in to order give room for those of more intrinsic value. The utility and propriety of this system will appear evident to those who have any experience in this art, therefore it needs on my part no further comments.

YOUNG HARD WOOD LOTS.

Hard wood lots that are young and thrifty may be thinned and pruned with great propriety and profit to the proprietor; good judgment is here indispensably necessary. None but those who can be depended upon in making the most desirable selection to *stand* ought to be trusted to perform this most important business; at the time of thinning, the trees left might be allowed the space of *ten feet, tree* from *tree*, in the course of four or six years, the second thinning out may be performed, leaving the trees at the distance of *Twenty one* feet apart; all the pruning that ought to be allowed is in the lopping *in* of the rambling and irregular growths, but on no occasion should a *living* branch be allowed to be cut close off. Always remember to cut so as to leave a thrifty shoot on the branch, or in other words, for I wish particularly to be rightly understood on this point—select a healthy shoot, there make the cut—by leaving it on the branch of the *tree*. Some practice is here also necessary as a novice in those matters cannot be trusted, for he neither knows the why or wherefore and cares but little about it any way. The pruning or lopping-in system should be performed more or less annually, in young *hard* wood lots, and the proprietor would be well remunerated for his care and labor.

Yours, respectfully,
WALTER SCOTT.
Nelson, N. H., Jan. 12th, 1850.

EXPERIMENTAL FARMING.

Mr. Editor,—Being somewhat amused as well as instructed in noticing an article in your paper headed "a Strike among Farmers," I thought it a favorable opportunity to strike not only for higher prices among farmers, but to strike at some erroneous opinions in agriculture.

To increase a crop of winter rye it has been recommended in some papers to harrow with an iron tooth harrow in the spring. I thought it would cost me no more to try the experiment than it had others. Last spring I had a piece of winter rye, something near four acres, on new ground well took and even; as soon as the frost was out I commenced harrowing strips from ten to twenty feet wide across the field in a faithful manner, which brought from my neighbors more smiles than tears, or as the Irishman said, I was going astray.

I sowed strips with plaster in the same field the previous fall. The result of these experiments was no alteration in crop for better or worse and no other marks of alteration save those of the harrow on the ground. I have made other experiments such as salting plum trees, plastering potatoes, ploughing in green crops &c. all of which is recommended in papers, all of which I think would pay the cost for each doubting farmer to examine. For one I would prefer Bommer's patent manure cast to the breeze in the moonlight of eve—and above all I would prefer a plenty of good manure with a plenty of good suggestions from your hand for a right application.

I think the meeting for the farmer's strike is at this very moment in mind if not in body, I shall therefore make my strike by striking off the days of six fat pigs which have devoured my corn by sumptuous living and exhausted my patience in waiting for a reasonable remuneration for my unwearied exertion, and lest I exhaust your patience I'll close this epistle at the close of the year by simply adding that I have closed the most of my pork in barrels with a plenty of salt.

A SUBSCRIBER.
Marlborough, Dec. 31st, 1849.

☞ Much pocket change will be saved next summer by filling the barrels well with pork this winter. Our butcher demands nine cents for spare rib—half bone; ten to twelve cents for clear salt pork—and we dare not say how much for bacon—while he sells the head and feet at three cents. This low price is laid on about twenty pounds in three hundred—say seven pounds in a hundred. How much is the tare and tret of a three hundred hog? Only twenty wt. is sold for less than the wholesale price—seven pounds in each hundred.

And yet we sell our three hundred hogs for less than six cents a pound. We advise farmers to keep their pork—at least enough of it to save buying fresh meat at retail. [Editor.

[For the Ploughman.]

POULTRY, NATIVE AND IMPORTED.

Mr. Editor,—Much interest is taken, much is written and said at the present time in relation to what old folks term, "Barn-door Fowls."—We read of the rare qualities of the "Shanghae," the "Cochin China," and various other tribes, as being far superior to the old fashioned Yankee Hen. Being a Yankee myself and loving most things that smack of Yankeeism, I volunteer in the defence of Yankee pullets, and if need be Yankee girls too. Men of science have come to the conclusion that climate is *the* great cause of the different hues and outlines of the human family. If this be so, I suppose climate would exert a similar influence on all animate things. It is not claimed that climate ever changes man to that extent as to lose his identity as man.—Neither is it likely that Yankee climate would produce so much change in imported fowls, that they would cease to be fowls. Yet it will not be denied, I think, that they will, very soon, assimilate to the real Yankee breed.

I believe that a generation for hens has never been established; but, as it is admitted that pullets lay more eggs than old hens, suppose we fix it at eighteen months.

Now, if a generation of hens passes away every year and a half, how long, pray, before you will have for your "Cochin Chinas" and Shanghaes, real Yankee *biddies*. For, says P. B., in the Ploughman of the 5th inst., when speaking of the feathered leg as a peculiar feature of the Shanghae Fowl—"A brood of chickens will be hatched, for instance, during the second or third year, from the original importation, and one half will come heavily feathered, one-fourth moderately, and the rest slightly feathered." Now, if such changes in the distinctive marks of the race take place in two or three years, from the original importation, what are we to expect from their descendants!

I keep fowls, not for their neatness or beauty, but for the convenience and profit of their eggs. I hold that the hen has distinctive marks of goodness, as well as the horse, the ox, or the cow.

The following are my notions of a good hen, to wit,—Live weight about 4 lbs., body short and compact, with sufficient heft behind to make them stand pretty erect, not apparently pitching forward, single comb, legs brown or black, not yellow or flesh colored, and be the color of the feathers what they may; a hen with these marks will prove a good layer nine times out of ten. It is quite rare that you find a hen with white or light colored feathers, that has brown or black legs. They are not as hardy, will not lay as many eggs, especially in cold weather, as dark colored fowls.

Such a Yankee hen as described above, will commence laying, if properly taken care of, when seven months old, be the season or weather what it may. Tradition has given this rule for feeding hens. Put your hand into a measure of corn, palm downwards, grasp the corn, and what you can take from the measure in that way, is sufficient feed for an ordinary hen for twenty-four hours. I make fifteen such handfuls in a quart. Hence, I give a quart of corn, daily, to fifteen hens, two quarts to thirty, which, in my judgment, is the maximum that any farmer should keep. With a larger number they are likely to become unhealthy and less profitable in proportion. By the above rule, and I have practiced it invariably for many years, it requires a fraction over three pecks of corn to keep a hen twelve months. It is a bad hen that will not lay 200 eggs in twelve months, under favorable circumstances.

I prefer to have chickens hatched in the month of May, keep the hen cooped until the chickens can swallow a kernel of corn, then let them roam where they please, as there is no danger of the hens' drabbling the chickens in the wet or dews to their injury when they can perform that feat. Take another traditionary rule: chickens hatched late in the season, providing they can swallow a kernel of corn at usual harvest time, are worth wintering, will suffer no inconvenience from cold, will make good layers the succeeding spring.—At all times let hens have access to something suitable for the manufacture of the egg-shell. I prefer clam or oyster shells, broken coarsely. I suffer my hens to roam at large at all seasons of the year, have no recollection of their ever doing, in a mischievous manner, damage to the amount of a penny. This may be, and probably is, owing to two causes,—As a principle I keep over nothing but pullets; secondly, I invariably feed every morning as soon as they are down from the roost. I think it as bad policy to keep food constantly before fowls, as to keep it constantly before swine or cattle. All must have observed in the same brood of chickens that while some have become partially feathered, others, as yet, are covered with down. This is an advantage of nature which will not be lost. Those that feather first will be the hardiest and commence laying the first.

From reading and observation I have come to the conclusion that inasmuch as the crack imported fowls are much larger than the native breed, the consumption of food is necessarily more; that they will not lay as many eggs from their birth up to the age of eighteen months; and there is nothing like the difference in the size of the egg, that there is in the size or heft of the fowl. A. C.
Uxbridge.

☞ One of the greatest errors committed by those who feed poultry is the keeping of them till they are old. Young hens always lay best. Some farmers make it a rule to keep none longer than one year. Others keep them till four years of age. And others still never kill old hens,—they are tough and not fit to eat. They usually die when their time comes.

Another error is to keep large numbers together. The rule of multiplication is strictly applied, and 100 hens are expected to lay ten times as many eggs as ten hens. One hundred may be kept as well as ten if shut up in ten different apartments. But hens must not be shut up through the whole year. They do but little injury in gardens except in June and July—and as they do much service by running at large it is good policy to let them run for a great part of the year.

In regard to the comparative value of the China and other fowls, we think the new kinds have not yet been tried long enough to determine. They are very large, and the *presumption* always is that large animals require more food than small ones—though this is not always the case. If the flesh proves as good as the flesh of the smaller fowls they will be preferred on account of their large weight.

As to feeding, we doubt whether the same rule will apply as in the case of fatting animals. It is not desirable that laying hens should eat to fulness. They often eat too much at once when they have been kept short. If they have access to grain constantly they will eat with more uniformity than when fed in small parcels. [Editor.

CORN SOWED FOR FODDER ON GREEN SWARD LAND.

Mr. Editor,—I feel in duty bound to speak in behalf of your valuable paper. I have taken it, I think, from the commencement; and I feel as well satisfied with it now as I ever have been. I think I have improved my farm since I took it. I have thought that there have been some hard questions put to you, but you always seem to have a satisfactory answer for them. In looking over the 14th number, I find that one of your subscribers makes the inquiry of the value of peat mud, when taken from the meadow in its green state. Now, Mr. Editor, I will give you my experience in this matter: some 8 or 9 years ago, this winter, I hauled something like 150 loads, the most of it I dug from the meadow, and spread on my grass land—some of the land was dry and sandy. Now, sir, I suppose if I had worked for 25 cents a day, myself and team, and boarded myself, I should be richer.

I wish to give you my experience with regard to raising corn for fodder. I sow my first at the usual time for planting, this will do to begin to top the last of July; the next sowing about the 25th of June, after taking off a small crop of grain. The last year I did not hoe my last sowing, I only ploughed it once, and I think I never saw so large a growth anywhere,—it was on a light soil. I think there is no way that a farmer can get his green fodder so easy. Some years ago I thought I would raise two crops in a year on the same ground. I sowed oats as early as it would do in the spring—I mowed them about the 4th of July, and got my corn in as quick as I could; I was satisfied that it was not profitable—I did not get more than the value of one crop.

Now, Mr. Editor, I feel that I am trespassing on your patience, and I will close by asking you one question. Will it do to sow ruta-baga seed the second year on the same ground? Now, sir, if you think this communication too long, you may curtail it as you may think proper.

JOSEPH WILD.
Acton, January 16, 1850.

☞ It is not considered good husbandry to let turnips succeed turnips, year after year. The ruta-baga in particular is found to be a great exhauster of the soil. As to a crop of oats, and then of corn to cut up for fodder the same year, we think the plan has not often been tried. All agree that oats draw hard on the goodness of the soil.

In regard to peat-muck there is a vast difference as to quality. Generally it is not worth much, unmixed, till it has been dug and exposed for one year. Soil from the road side is better than fresh peat-muck—and generally it is worth as much to mix with manure.

But soil cannot always be obtained. Farmers go to pond holes and peat bogs for want of something handier to mix up with their stable manure. [Editor.

KNOWLEDGE AS APPLIED TO AGRICULTURE.

The history of a nation's agriculture is the history of its civilization. Such is the connection between the modes of thinking and the *habits* and actions of men, that their practice, at a given time in one department of labor or one branch of effort, affords a clue to the practice in others. When we know what men think, we know what they will do; and if we know what they are doing, we can form a fair opinion of their thinking.

Agriculture is at the basis of every civilized society. It feeds and sustains all other arts, and professions. If we then know its condition, we know how those acts and professions are fed. Savage men do not use a plough, a cart, or a harrow. If they use none of these and similar implements, it is plain they can cultivate no fields and transport no considerable products. If on the other hand we find numerous and well wrought implements in the hands of the agricultural population, we not only know that as a consequence, their fields will be well tilled; but we also know that the mechanic arts are flourishing, and the mechanic arts ramify and connect with every branch of society.

If, for instance, we were to travel in British India, and find a carpenter sitting flat upon the earth, holding the board which he was endeavoring to plane, between his toes. If going a little further we should find the blacksmith in the same position, pounding his iron. If a little further we find the farmer driving his bullock, with a hook for a plough fastened to the tail of the animal, we should expect to see his house a hut, his bed a mat on the earth; his table and chairs the same. We should look to see him daub his head with holy ashes and bow down to a wooden god.—We should look to see him cruel, revengeful, faithless, lying. We might begin at either end of the picture, but we should expect to see this law of correspondence hold good throughout.

The people of Mexico, among whom our armies were engaged a year or two since, fought just about as well as they ploughed, and cultivated. Their houses and their fields, and their arms, were of a sort to correspond with each other. Hence we deduce this law—that a nation or community will not advance in civilization and refinement, much beyond the condition of its agriculture. Should it for a time do this, it will be dragged back to the true position of correspondence.

This conceded, we are prepared to advance a step further, and say that the character of *the man*, may be known by the manner in which he conducts his trade or profession. We admit that men may be better fitted for one calling than another; and that occasionally a man may happen upon the wrong profession—and that he might have succeeded better in another; but these are only the exceptions. Sound minded men, with brains in their heads, and good bones and muscles, and hearts that beat *right*, who will succeed in one profession, will succeed in any profession or calling. A man who is a poor, shiftless, unthrifty mechanic, will be poor, shiftless, and unthrifty any where else. The man whose farm is in confusion from one year to another, conducted with no skill or system, shows that its owner is lacking in those qualities which fit a man to conduct any business successfully. And so we may say of a man in any calling or profession. The fault is in the man's MIND! He lacks the requisite culture, skill, steadiness. His mental qualifications are at fault, not being such as qualify him to conduct a business skilfully and successfully. We fancy some one is ready now to ask—do you mean to say that you can tell any thing of a man's mind, by looking at his farm! We surely do! A man's farm is conducted in accordance with his ideas—it shows what his notions of things are. His mental process are acted out on his land, and among his stock. As a man thinks and feels, so will *he do*—in the pulpit, in the office, on the farm, or wherever he may be.

And this brings to us another conclusion, viz: That success and excellence in agriculture depend, not mainly on strong hands or on the cash employed in it, nor any other exterior advantages, but on that, on which success in all undertakings depend, viz: on the mind of the man. The hands are instruments by which a plough is guided, or a scythe or fork is wielded, and strong ones are necessary for the work; but they are only the *instruments* of the controlling intellect, which plans, devises, arranges, and controls the whole work. It is the mind of the master that shapes the work of the farm, and conducts it to success, precisely as much as it is of the General, who controls an army and guides it to victory. This doctrine is not strange when we apply it to poets, painters, or literary men. We know when we read Shakspeare, or Byron, or Macaulay, what sort of men they are; for their mental processes and their passions are recorded. So do we know what sort of a man Bonaparte was when we trace out his campaigns. In short, a man in any pursuit, writes out *his mind in his deeds*.

Good farming depends on the intellectual and moral condition of those who conduct its operations—dolts and clodhoppers *do not* make the best farmers—but the men *who think* are the men who will succeed here, just as they will any where else.

If this is true, we can see at a glance where improvement in agriculture is to commence. It is to commence where all improvement commences, IN THE MIND. The farmer is required to be a thinking man. That is the best farmer who brings the best trained intellect to the work—the soundest logic, the best judgment, and the purest heart.

It is very true that a man may acquire much skill in any one pursuit by mere repetition of its processes—by habit. Thus a flute player will learn a tune so that his fingers will go through it while he is thinking upon something else. A sailor will use logarithmic tables which he cannot begin to compute; and a farmer may go through the yearly routine of sowing a crop, reaping and harvesting it, just as his father did, without ever thinking of one reason for doing this in preference to that; and really employ less brains in the business than the woodchuck which eats his clover. A certain degree of success will often attend such farming. But let any thing new occur to break in on the habit or routine of things, and our imitator is at his wits ends at the first corner. Mere instinct never invents any thing new; but it may repeat old processes skilfully—even as bees build beautiful hexagons, and cement them inimitably.

Do not understand us as saying that the best farmer is the man who has been the longest at school. The best education is not always obtained there. True education consists in establishing right mental processes. This may be done in a school, in a college; and it is sometimes done in the workshop, by the fireside, at the light of a pine knot, or on the farm, beneath the blue skies, and among the trees of the woods. The man who is called *educated*, if he undertakes the conduct of a farm, often applies the whole force of his thoughts, and all his leisure in partisan politics, or on some other matter entirely disconnected with his business. His education, such as it is, is made of no use to him in his business, because he does not apply his mind there.

Hence it is not only necessary that a man think, but that he think in connection with his pursuits. The lawyer is obliged to think in connection with the cause he advocates—the minister of the sermon he is to preach—the editor of the article he is to print; but it is equally necessary that the farmer *think* in connection with the business which he conducts. [Prairie Farmer.

Air-tight Stoves. Air-tight stoves, so called, are a great luxury. The amount of heat afforded by them, with a given quantity of wood, is far greater than by any open stove in existence. The comfort of a cheerful fire is not denied to a considerable extent; and there is nothing to carry the heat up the chimney—it consequently passes into the room. But air-tight stoves have their failings; and one of them is considerably grievous. This is the liability of the smoke to condense in the pipe and chimney, and run down in a dripping, cachodorous, and dirty fluid; defiling all things in its way, and destroying the chimney in a short time. The reason of this dripping, we take to be this: The smoke rises very slowly for want of sufficiency of heated air to carry it up; and consequently the upper parts of the chimney and pipe will be cold, though the fire may be very hot below; especially, if they are long or high. Par consequence the smoke is condensed before it escapes the chimney. In the use of tight stoves then, there should be as little pipe as possible, and the chimney should be no larger than is needed, that it may be kept warm throughout. [Ibid.

Documents from the Board of Education. From this annual pamphlet it appears that the school fund shows an annual gain, the past year, of $27,815 09. Its present amount is $876,082 26; of the whole, $155,007 20 is in landed notes, on which interest accumulates until the maturity of the principal, and $721,075 06 in funded property of various kinds, and yielding an income of about $39,000. This income is distributed to the towns in the State, for the support of schools. The school fund increases, and the expenses for educational purposes are now paid by law from sales of one-half of the public lands in Maine, &c., and accordingly the total cost for the year of the board of education and its officers, of the teachers' Institute, Normal schools, &c., amounting to $17,217 57—has been defrayed in this manner. Since the last report, Mr. Henry Todd, of Boston, has bequeathed to the board, for the aid of Normal Schools, about $10,000.

The number of children between the ages of 4 and 16 years of age, in the whole State, is set down as 215,926—mean average attendance at school, 134,734. As regards the appropriation of money, the past year for the education of each child, Boston stands No. 1, Brookline No. 2, Charlestown No. 3, Somerville No. 4. The towns standing last on the list are Harwich, Ashfield and Savoy, each of which appropriated $1,25 for each child in its limits. Boston appropriated $10.65. As regard counties, Suffolk stands first, Nantucket next, and Berkshire last. As regards attendance at school, Boxborough is first and New Ashford last—Boston is 139 in this particular.

Last year there were 3749 public schools in the Commonwealth, and 1047 incorporated academies, private schools and schools kept to prolong common schools. The amount of money raised by taxation for the wages and board of teachers, and for fuel in public schools, was $830,577, in addition to voluntary contributions of $35,282—average number of scholars 134,734. The private schools as above were maintained at an expense of $262,365—average number of scholars 27,583. In the State there are 64 incorporated academies with 3864 scholars, conducted at an expense for tuition of $61,695.

The Normal schools are described as full and flourishing—the whole expenditure for the three schools for the year was $5968 01.

Such are the statistical facts gleaned from the documents in hand. We perceive nothing else which, in so brief an abstract as we should be able to present, can interest the general reader. Those engaged in the business of teaching, or otherwise especially interested, will look over the pamphlet for themselves. We may add, however, that the cause of education is going ahead generally, if not in all places, as fast as could be desired. Mr. Sears, as Secretary, meets the approbation of the board, and his report shows him to be interested in his vocation. [Post.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Continued.]

It is gratifying to know that the manufacture of cotton has already been introduced into several of the planting States, (see document marked hereto annexed) and it ought not to be doubted will rapidly be extended.

The manufacture of iron, wool, and our other staples would lead to similar results. The effect would be a vast augmentation of our wealth and power.

Upon commerce the effects might be expected to be, if possible, still more marked. It is not enough to say that no country ever diminished its commerce by increasing its productions—and that no injury would therefore result to that interest. There would probably be, not only a great increase in the amount, but an improvement not less important in the nature of our commerce.

Of the immense addition that would accrue to our internal and coasting trade, (which in every country form the great and most valuable body of commerce) it is unnecessary to do more than merely speak in passing—but it may be well to offer a few remarks on foreign commerce.

Commerce is the machinery of exchange. It is the handmaid of agriculture and manufactures. It will not be affirmed that it is ever positively injurious—but it will be more or less useful as it co-operates more or less with the productive industry of the country. The mere carriage of commodities by sea or land is necessarily profitable only to the carrier, who is paid for it. It may be useful or not to others, according to circumstances. The farmer finds a railroad a great convenience, but he understands that it is better employed in carrying his crop, than in carrying away his seed-wheat and manure.

The commerce which should consist in carrying cotton seed abroad, to be there grown, would not be so useful as that which is now occupied in exporting the raw cotton grown at home. We should easily understand, also, that the commerce thus employed would be much more limited in amount and much less profitable to the carriers than what we now have. Yet our present commerce is, in fact, of the same nature with that above described. The seed bears to the cotton the same relation which the cotton bears to the cloth. If we now export cotton of the value of about sixty-six millions, the same cotton, when converted into cloth, would make an export of some two hundred and sixty-four millions, or some two hundred and forty-five millions after deducting the fifteen or twenty millions which would be required for our own consumption, (in addition to the portion of our present manufactures consumed at home,) and our imports would be thereby in like manner increased. England, at this moment, derives a large portion of her power from spinning and weaving our cotton. When we shall spin and weave it ourselves, make our own iron, and manufacture our other staples, we shall have transferred to this country the great centres of wealth, commerce, civilization, and political, as well as moral and intellectual power.

At present, we are far from having the amount of foreign commerce which is due to our position, as a vastly productive country, with an extensive coast, good harbors, great internal watercourses, and a people unsurpassed in maritime skill and enterprise.

Our annual products were estimated by my predecessor in this Department, at three thousand million dollars, while our average exports are about one hundred and thirteen millions, and our imports about one hundred and six millions, making together two hundred and nineteen millions, exclusive of gold and silver and of foreign commodities imported and re-exported. An eminent British authority estimates the annual creation of wealth in Great Britain and Ireland, at [illegible] articles omitted by him, between three and four hundred millions, we shall have a total of two thousand five hundred millions. The British exports and imports amount annually to about five hundred and twenty millions exclusive of gold and silver, and of foreign commodities imported and re-exported. If their foreign trade were brought down to our scale upon this estimate, it would be reduced to about one hundred and eighty-three millions. If ours were raised to their scale, it would reach about six hundred and twenty-four millions.

Estimating the population of Great Britain and Ireland at thirty millions, and our population at twenty-one millions, their foreign trade averages $17 33 for each individual; ours $10 42. If their foreign trade were no greater than ours, in proportion to population, it would be reduced from five hundred and twenty to three hundred and twelve millions. If our foreign trade were as great in proportion to population as is theirs, it would be swelled in amount from two hundred and nineteen to three hundred and sixty-four millions.

A leading cause of the existing difference is to be found in the fact, that Great Britian exports chiefly what she has first brought to the form in which it is ready for ultimate consumption; it is at the stage of its highest value, and her market is almost co-extensive with the civilized world.

All history shows that where are the workshops of the world, there must be the marts of the world, and the heart of wealth, commerce, and power. It is as vain to hope to make these marts by providing warehouses, as it would be to make a crop by building a barn.

IV. Whether we can have workshops to work up, at least, our own materials, must depend upon the question, whether we have or can obtain sufficient advantages to justify the pursuit of this kind of industry.

The circumstances favorable to production in this country may be stated to be: 1st. Facility in procuring raw materials. 2d. Abundance of fuel. 3d. Abundance of food and other articles necessary for the sustenance and housing of the laborer. 4th. The superior efficacy of the laborers in comparison with those of other countries.

The circumstances supposed to be unfavorable to our production may be thus classed:

1st. Want of capital.

2d. Dearness of our labor as compared with that of other countries.

3d. Insecurity by exposure to the influence of violent and excessive fluctuations of price in foreign markets, and to undue foreign competition.

1st

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

William Buckminster, Editor.

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 26, 1850.

THIRD AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

There was another meeting in the State House on Tuesday evening: Subject, *Agricultural Education*. We were not present at the meeting, but learn that a number of speakers gave their views on the subject. The Hon. Mr. Calhoun presided.

Mr. S. W. Cole, as reported in the Journal, remarked, in commencing the discussion, that in former years much had been said upon the subject of Agricultural Education, and that now the time for action in the matter had come. There are certain studies connected with agriculture which seem to be needed, and which some had doubted whether they could be taught to advantage. He conceived there was no more difficulty in teaching the sciences which come into requisition in agriculture, than any other pursuit. The most important of these sciences are chemistry, geology, and botany, to which might be added entomology, zoology, &c. All these, he thought, might as well be taught in our seminaries of learning, as any branch of literature. In connection with an institution to teach the sciences connected with agriculture, there should be a model farm, which should be under the direction of a skilful farmer, qualified to give the students practical instruction on the subjects which come before them.

There was some difficulty, he said, in maturing a plan for the best manner of beginning the work. He thought best not to begin too extensively, for if a large sum should be granted by the Legislature, and at first should be but partially successful, it would defeat the whole object, while on the other hand if it was commenced on a small scale, and managed properly and successfully, the confidence of the people would be secured, and further aid would be granted. He was in favor of action the present session, and he would not confine the action of the Legislature wholly to Agricultural Schools, for they alone would do but about the same towards accomplishing the work, as our Colleges would towards giving our children a good education if our common schools were discontinued. He would have pains taken in our common schools to give instruction in this as well as other branches of education. We want elementary books on the sciences appertaining to agriculture, to be used in our common schools, so that many boys who would be unable to attend the Agricultural School, could, in connection with their other studies at the common school, learn the rudiments of these sciences.

Mr. JENKS, of Boston, thought that owing to the shortness of time allowed to the pupils in the proposed institution, it could not be conducted on as small a scale as some had intimated. Preparations must me made to have several departments going on at the same time, in order to complete the education of the pupils in two or three years. He was also in favor of having the elements of agricultural education taught in our common schools. This, however, need not nor would not supersede the agricultural institution in contemplation. He said these institution ought to be training schools where those who teach in our common schools could go to be instructed in agriculture, so as to be prepared to teach it to their pupils. In Ireland, he said, there were thirteen of these schools, to which those who give instruction in other schools could resort for an agricultural education.

COL. WILDER was rejoiced to see the subject taken up in earnest. He thought agriculture as susceptible of improvement as manufactures, or the mechanic arts. His motto is *to begin*, and in this case he stood ready to co-operate with all who feel an interest in the subject. He was ready to begin on a small scale, if that should be thought best, rather than not at all. He thought the science of agriculture ought to be taught in our Common Schools, though not to the exclusion of the establishment of an agricultural institution upon its own basis. Though he should like to see Massachusetts lead in this work, he was ready to follow any judicious, feasible plan which might be adopted by others. He thought the meeting ought to present some plan to the Legislature; to say what is wanted and what is expected to be accomplished;—and that until some such plan is presented, aid could hardly be [illegible] Pennington, in response to a call from the Chair, alluded briefly to the improvements made in agriculture, within the last 40 years, and also to the improvement in the education and condition of females. But he thought that their education for the duties of the good housewife was too much neglected—and hoped that if such an agricultural school was established in connection with a model farm, while the boys were learning to manage the outside business—the girls would be taught to take care of the inside arrangements. Labor he considered necessary for the benefit of the intellect, and he feared that if there was as great a falling off for 25 years to come, as for 25 years past, in the physical education of our females, the seats in Congress and in our own Legislature would be filled in the next century by the sons of those whom we now speak of as poor Irish women. He doubted whether one Yankee girl in ten, as at present educated, was fit to take charge of the farmer's house, and he hoped the time would come when a young man looking for a companion could find one who knows how to keep every thing in its place. The farmer may like music as well as any other person, but if when he comes in from the plough, he finds the fire out under the pot, the dinner not ready, or the children crying; the sound of the organ would grate harshly upon his ears. He said that females would generally follow the fashion, and desired to be what the young men would have them be, and he therefore hoped that something might be done to fit them for their station. He did not know of a real thrifty farmer where there was no women in the house to take care of things.

Hon. JOHN C. GRAY of Boston, thought there was not so much need of educating farmers or those who were brought up on farms, but he wished that class educated who did not have the advantage of an early agricultural education. He believed that in commencing the proposed institution it was better to begin moderately than on too large a scale, and thought that when the fruits began to be seen, there would be no difficulty in getting an abundance of aid. He inclined to the belief that the best method of applying the patronage of the State would be by connecting an agricultural department with some of our high schools or colleges already established.

Rev. Mr. Barry of Hanover alluded to Agricultural schools in other countries—said farmers want light—thought when an Institution is established we shall send to the old countries for men to conduct it.

Mr. H. C. Merriam again spoke at much length. It will not be necessary to detail his remarks, for they differ but little from those reported last winter.

By general consent the same subject is to be discussed on Tuesday next, to which day the meeting was adjourned.

THE FOURTH DISTRICT.—There was no choice in this District on Monday last, and there is no prospect of doing better under the present law. If the legislature think it good policy to let us dance "to tire each other down," we hope every member who votes in the affirmative will be "run down" at the next election. What is the use of *continuing* the irritation among the farmers and mechanics of the Fourth District?

☞ The annual meeting of the Framingham Branch Rail Road Company is adjourned to this day, Saturday, at 11 o'clock, A. M., at Framingham Village.

☞ We were late enough in going to press yesterday to be able to give the telegraphic account from Europe, by the Niagara, just arrived at Halifax. See "Foreign Intelligence."

☞ We have received another letter from the Rev. Morrill Allen of Pembroke, on the subject of measuring corn. We say from Morrill Allen, for it bears the initials "M. A." Does he fear to sign his name to what he writes?

But we cannot make room for this second attempt to show in the Ploughman the "unfairness" of the editor. The public cannot be interested in any controversy of this kind which is now made to assume a personal character—a personal contest, between the Rev. gentleman and the editor of this paper. The facts are already before the public—let the public judge of the merits of the case—and leave the merits of the men to be judged where they are best known.

Nothing new is asserted in this communication except that the Rev. gentleman—the Supervisor—has never transgressed a single rule laid down by the Plymouth Society.

Now this is the first intimation we have ever had that he was suspected of transgressing any rule whatever. Certainly we have accused him of no such thing. The merits of the Rev. gentleman are well known to the public. The large corn crop was the thing in controversy.

☞ There was a great flood in Danvers on Tuesday. The Salem Freeman seems to suppose it was caused by the great rain that fell on the ice on Monday night. Many cellars were filled with water, and workmen in the tan-yards were forced to quit.

☞ The President's Message on California, in answer to a call of the House, will be seen at length in another column. We believe it gives very general satisfaction at the North. The leading Free soil paper in New York, the Post, commends it. The greatest complaint comes from the South.

☞ The American Union is a very good literary and miscellaneous paper, edited by G. P. Burnham, Esq., and published by R. B. Fitts & Co. It is printed in the best manner by Mr. Geo. F. Bemis at 22 School Street. We are pleased to learn from the publishers that their paper is prospering. They publish about 12,000 copies weekly.

☞ The Daily Bee is recently enlarged, and promises to be more industrious than ever. They propose to exclude pernicious quack advertisements, which most penny papers parade in public. May they succeed in so doing, and keep the hive in good trim.

☞ One of the best places to procure custom made clothing in this city is at No. 55 Washington street. Messrs. Kelly & Son have a large and well furnished store and shop. We have known them for several years, have always liked the work they have done for us, and take pleasure in commending their store to the public.

☞ Miss Frederika Bremer visited the State House on Thursday. Several of the Legislators were introduced to the fair authoress from Sweden.

☞ Messrs. G. W. Warren & Co. sell goods at the Ladies' Exchange, at reduced prices, a few days longer, till Feb. 1st. There will be a change in the firm.

☞ The editor of the Ploughman will deliver an Agricultural Lecture at North Bellingham, on Wednesday evening next.

☞ The 8th number of Phillips & Sampson's superb edition of Shakspeare contains the "Midsummer Night's Dream," and a fine engraving of Titania, Queen of the Fairies. This is the beginning of the second volume.

☞ D. D. Mussey & Co., Cornhill, have the "American Poultry Yard," by D. J. Browne, for sale. It was noticed more at length last week.

INTERESTING FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.

I learn that the President refuses to answer Senator Bradbury's call for his reasons for the removal of democrats, and appointment of whigs in their place. It is said that, in consequence of this, a majority of the Senators have agreed to make no confirmations of importance, until an answer is sent in.

Among the various propositions on the slavery question lying on the table of the Senate, is the territorial compromise bill of General Foote. Upon that bill, during the present week, we expect the views of Gen. Cass to be defined, according to the Nicholas letter. Mr. Clay is reported to be digesting some compromise.

The amount of funds said to be drawn from the Treasury by Capt. Nayler, of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, on account of the Mexican war, is fifty-nine thousand dollars, upon claims which legally amounted to only nine thousand.

The Cuba discovery is an old affair, yet it gives Mr. Clayton considerable trouble, for Sir Henry Bulwer is said to be mixed up in it, as having communicated the views of his government in relation to the island. The agents of the Spanish minister keep him, and he keeps the cabinet, well advised on the subject.

The first business in the House to-morrow will be the old story of the Doorkeeper.

Mr. Calhoun, who was reported, last evening, as dangerously ill, was much better, in every respect, at 8 o'clock this evening.

The Hon. Mr. Winthrop gave a splendid dinner to Sir Henry Bulwer, at the National, last evening.—*N. Y. Herald.*

OHIO. The Senate was finally organized on Friday last. On the assemblage of the body in the morning, Mr. Swift (Democratic Free Soil) pledged himself to vote for Mr. Convers (Whig), or Randall (Free Soil), provided Mr. Blake would resign his station as Speaker of the Senate. Mr. Randall refused to serve. Mr. Blake then resigned, and Charles C. Convers of Muskingum was chosen Speaker on the first ballot, receiving 25 of the 32 votes cast.

Committees were then despatched to the other house and the Governor, announcing that the Senate was ready to proceed to business.

In answer to the communication to the Governor, the message was received. It is a brief document, occupying only two columns of the Columbus Journal.

Upon the great question of the day, Gov. Ford of course holds the Northern doctrines—He recommends the adoption by the Legislature of a resolution pressing upon the delegation in Congress the propriety of the passage of "an ordinance forever excluding slavery from every foot of territory owned by the United States, before any portion thereof shall be organized and admitted as a state," and requesting the delegation to use their exertions and influence to have the slave trade in the District of Columbia immediately abolished.

WITNESSES. In the Supreme Judicial Court, on Monday, about fifty persons were ordered to give bonds in the sum of $100 each for their appearance in March next as witnesses in the case of the Commonwealth against Prof. Webster.

The Solicitor of the Treasury has ordered that drafts of the Treasury Department for the balance due the Government by P. M. Wetmore, Esq., be presented to that gentleman. Ex-Governor Young has made, the Tribune says, the presentation, and demanded payment, but Mr. Wetmore declined, and has also declined to make any payment.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL OF THE NIAGARA.

The News by the Niagara arrives just in season for publication in the Ploughman of this week. We copy the despatches by Telegraph and Express over the Eastern Railroad from the Courier of yesterday (Friday) morning:

FIRST DESPATCH.

HALIFAX, Telegraph Office, Thursday, 2 A. M.

The Niagara has arrived. The cotton Market was buoyant. Sales for the week ending Jan 12, 69,000 bales, of which speculators took 49,000. Prices up all round ,-4d per lb. Bread Stuffs dull, and slightly declined. Provisions—demand and prices better. Sugar, Coffee and Lard decidedly advanced. Money extremely abundant. Consols 97 a 3-8. American Stocks firm and in good demand. U. S. Sixes, 105 a 1-2 to 6. Political news interesting, but not especially important.

SECOND DESPATCH.

The steamer Niagara, Capt. Ryrie, arrived this morning at 2 o'clock, bringin about 80 passengers and a full freight of French and other goods. She brings advices two weeks later from all parts of Europe. She sailed from Liverpool on the morning of 12th inst., and has had an unusually pleasant passage. We are under especial obligations to the gentlemanly Purser of the Niagara, for the prompt delivery of our packages.

The Hibernia arrived at Liverpool on the 9th, and her news from New York created a good deal of excitement in the Cotton market. Early in the week preceding the departure of the Niagara, it was discovered that the Committee of Cotton Brokers had made a serious mistake in under estimating the stock of Cotton to the extent of 80,000 bales; yet notwithstanding this fact, the market during the past week has been extremely buoyant, and prices have advanced one farthing per lb. all round. Total sales of the week, 69,000 bales; of which speculators took 49,000. The Committee's quotations are, fair Orleans, 6 7-8; Mobile 6 3-4; and Uplands, do.

The Corn market has been dull through the kingdom during the week. Indian Corn has declined 6d per quarter, and now sells at 30s for prime white, and 29s for yellow. Best brands of Philadelphia and Baltimore Flour command 25s 6d; Western Canal 23s.

American Provisions—Beef continues depressed, and but little demand for Pork; Bacon and Lard are however in lively request, at improved rates, the latter to the extent of 1s per cwt.

For Rice more inquiry, and Carolina commands 19s 6d. Coffee in good demand at advanced prices. Sugar—Prices have advanced 6d to 1s, and holders are looking for still higher rates. Tobacco—Full prices and firm market. Turpentine in better demand and prices 6d higher. Metals, Tin has advanced £2 per ton, and a good business going forward. The market for British Iron and Scotch Pig has increased in firmness, with a good business

Freights—Passengers continue scarce, and rates to most ports have a downward tendency.

The money market continues to increase in buoyancy. The Bullion in the Bank has slightly decreased. Consols are still going up. The Bank rate of discount, it is expected, will soon be reduced. American stocks continue firm and in fair request. New York State, 95; City, 93; Pennsylvania Fives, 83; Massachusetts Fives, 103 a 104; Maryland Fives, 89.

ENGLAND. Parliament meets for the despatch of business on the 1st of February, when it is expected that some important change in the monetary system will be laid before the Legislature.

President Taylor's message, which reached England by the Hibernia, has been extensively published and largely commented upon by the English press. The general expression of public sentiment is very favorablo. The London Times says: "The tenor of the message is pacific, and we learn with pleasure, that there is no disposition on the part of the American Cabinet to magnify the differences which were supposed at one moment to threaten its relations with the most liberal of the European powers.

The contention with France had originated in the impatience of M. Poussin, and the irregular vehemence of Mr. Clayton. That with England reference to the views of this country of the Mosquito coast and the Nicaragua Canal. But there is every reason to anticipate that Sir Henry Bulwer's mission will have the effect of uniting both countries in the prosecution of a common object of so much importance to the commerce of the world. The more recent occurrences which are said to have taken place on the Pacific coast of the Isthmus, by the alleged seizure of the Island of Tigre, in the Bay of Fonseca, by order of Mr. Chatfield, the British Consul General in Gautemala, are still very imperfectly known in this country; and we are satisfied, that if any unseemly altercation has occurred between British and American agents in Central America, it will not disturb the friendly relations of the two governments. It seems that while a treaty has been concluded between the United States and the Republic of Nicaragua, for the promotion of the Canal, all other States are invited to enter into the same treaty stipulations; and, as President Taylor observes, the work constructed under these guarantees will become a bond of peace, instead of a cause of contention and strife between the nations of the earth. In other respects, the relations of America with Great Britain are of these guarantees will become a bond of peace, instead of a cause of contention and strife between the nations of the earth. In other respects, the relations of America with Great Britain are of the most friendly character, and the removal of all restrictions on the laws of navigation, by both countries, is justly commemorated as an era in their common commercial interests. Upon the whole, this message is creditable to the American Government, and should prove satisfactory to the country; for if the state of their finances is encumbered with outstanding liabilities, that evil is the result of former excesses, and the price of their late victories."

FRANCE. The Assembly has been occupied during the past week, in debating upon the policy of sending out more troops to the River Plate, and also with the provisions of a new education bill. It has been decided that no more troops shall be sent to the Plate. Various proclamations have been issued against all kind of clubs, and secret and political associations. The National announces that 25,000 men of the army employed in restoring the Pope to his throne, are to remain at Rome, the government having concludad contracts for the maintenance of that force in the Pontifical dominions during the first quarter of 1850. A new paper called the Napoleon, and said to be the organ of the President of the Republic, has just been started at Paris.

The correspondent of the London Herald, writing from Paris on Wednesday evening, says—"There is a rumor whispered about, to which, from its very serious character, I would not even make an allusion, did I not know that it has made an impression on persons not disposed to swallow idle stories. It is said, then, that a treaty has actually been concluded between the Emperor of Russia and the President of the Republic, the particulars of which will yet be found to be anything but desirable, so far as England's interests are concerned.

General Lamoriciere arrived this morning from St. Petersburg, and M. Gustave de Beaumont arrived at the same time from Vienna. As the gallant General left his family on the road and hurried on before them, it is conjectured that something of importance determined him to hasten his journey.

An aid-de-camp of General Baraguay de Hilliers has just reached Paris, from Rome, with important despatches, the nature of which has in part transpired. It would seem that there is little likelihood of an understanding being come to between the gallant General and the Government of the Cardinals, owing to the manifest jealousy of French influence entertained by the latter, while the Cardinals are for placing the Pope under the protection of a mixed garrison of Austrians and Italians. General de Hilliers insists upon leaving a French force of 12,000 men in the city of Rome.

This proposition has been met by the Cardinals with a decided refusal, and affairs are as far as ever from being arranged. The French funds continue to rise. The five per cents have reached 64f. 55c.

AUSTRIA. The Breslau Gazette of the 6th says—"The public mind in Vienna is much taken up with reports of *coup d'etat*—reports which are ever current in military circles. The day named for putting it into effect is the 6th or 7th inst. The military measures are really formidable. Within a circle of six miles round Vienna, the houses are full of soldiers—there are at least 50,000 in Vienna, and 50,000 could be poured in by the railways in the course of three or four days. The reply of the Austrian cabinet to a note from Prussia on the subject of the Erfurt Parliament, is as follows:—"The Austrian cabinet is sorry to find that its former communications, instead of producing the desired effect upon Prussia, have elicited replies, which, though evasive, are full of significance.

In its former remonstrances the Austrian cabinet fully states its view of the question, and of the consequences of the step which Prussia was taking. Since then remonstrances were unheeded, Austria will not condescend to wage a war of words with the Prussian cabinet, but reserving all her objections, protests and rights till a further opportunity, she wishes it to be understood that her silence is not to be construed into an acquiescence with the Prussian project, nor into a dereliction of her rights."

The report that an alliance offensive and defensive had been concluded between Prussia, France and England, was circulated at Berlin on the 30th ult. General Count Urbana who commanded the Imperialists when they were defeated at Raab, by the Hungarians, has committed suicide at Verona.

The typhus fever was raging fearfully at Vienna on the 20th ult. No less then 30 medical men had been seized with it from visiting their patients.

PRUSSIA. *Berlin*, Jan. 7th. It is understood that the ministerial crisis was over, and that on this day the chambers would receive a royal message, proposing the oath to be taken to the constitution, and accepting the same with some slight amendments.

TURKEY. The correspondent of the London Times, under date of Constantinople, Dec. 19th, says—"A courier has arrived here from St. Petersburg, with the Emperor's answer to the last communication made to his Imperial Highness, by the Sublime Porte, with regard to the question of the Polish and Hungarian refugees. In a former letter, I told you that the Turkish ministers were willing to consent to the expulsion of all those Poles who had been concerned in the late Hungarian insurrection—but that they objected to the expulsion of Polish refugees who were resident in Turkey previously to that event, and who were provided with French or other passports.

The Czar has agreed to the terms proposed by the Porte—and Dembinski and the other Poles who served in Hungary are to be expelled, and their countrymen resident in Turkey, who were not concerned in that insurrection are to remain unmolested. If, however, without reference to the country under whose protection he may be, he shall, whilst resident in the Ottoman Empire, be guilty of any act hostile to the government of the Emperor Nicholas, he shall, at the command of the Russian envoy, be expelled from the Sultan's dominions.

Kossuth and the Hungarian refugees are to be confined in a fortified town in the interior: they are not to be close prisoners, but their place of residence will be under the constant surveillance of the Turkish authorities.

The correspondent of the Morning Herald however, writing on the same day, asserts that the Emperor of Russia has refused to accept the Sultan's guaranty for the conduct of the Poles, and that the matter is as far from being settled as ever.

LEGISLATIVE

FRIDAY, Jan. 18.

IN THE SENATE. The annual Report of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of the Western Railroad was received.

The Committee on the Judiciary reported the bill concerning damages for defective highways and other ways.

The Committe on Agriculture reported a Resolve in favor of the establishment by Congress of a Board of Agriculture.

An order instructing the Committee on Railways to inquire into the expediency of repealing the law requiring bells to be rung by railroad trains on approaching all crossings, and that instead thereof the engineers be required to blow their steam whistles, was referred to the Committee on Railroads and Canals.

IN THE HOUSE. Petitions were presented and referred:—Of Willard Sears and others for incorporation as the Citizens' Bank in Boston; of Daniel Foster, for compensation for injuries received while acting as a special police officer; of F. B. Appleton, and others, for certain alterations in the law of divorce; of the School Committees of Dudley and Webster, for a change of the School laws; of the Merchants' Bank of Boston for an increase of its capital.

SATURDAY, Jan. 19.

IN THE SENATE. Petitions &c. presented and referred, of J. Henshaw and others of W. Brookfield, for the establishment of a Mutual Bank, with power to issue bills not redeemable in specie; annual Reports of the Worceste, Barre, and Gardener Railroad, and of the Harvard Branch Railroad.

Orders Passed—That the Committee on Banks and Banking consider the expediency of establishing a bank in Boston to redeem the bills, and transact the other business of the country Banks.

That Messrs. Hawley and Seaver, with such as the House may join, be a committee to consider what measures may be adopted to effect an earlier organization of the several departments of the State Goverment each political year.

IN THE HOUSE. The Committee on Mr. Griswold's order concerning the election of Representatives by districts, &c. consists of Messrs. Griswold of Greenfield, Hoar of Concord, Gray of Boston, Branning of Tyringham, T. Nye, Jr. of New Bedford, Campbell of Chester, and Caldwell of Ipswich.

The Committee on Mr. Boutwell's order in relation to Harvard College was appointed as follows: Messrs. Boutwell of Groton, Hopkins of Northampton, Safford of Dorchester, Frothingham of Charlestown, Guild of Boston, Strickland of Sandisfield, and Wood of Fairhaven.

Petitions were presented and referred—of the town of Auburn that certain lands may be set off from Millbury, and annexed to Auburn; of David S. Mandell and others for a Mutual Bank in Ware; of Mary C. Bolton, for compensation for services rendered by her late husband as one of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia.

The Special Committee on the subject of Representative elections by districts, on motion of Mr. Wilson, of Natick, was directed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Constitution so as to secure a division of the State into single Senatorial Districts.

The House then took up the orders of the day, and proceeded to discuss the plurality bill.

MONDAY, Jan. 21.

IN THE SENATE. Petitions, &c. presented and referred—Of citizens of Grafton for a portion of the School Fund; 4th annual Report of Fall River Railroad; of Foster Bryant, for a subscription to the Intellectual Arithmetic; annual History of Worcester and Nashua Railway.

It was ordered that Messrs. Walker and Dawes with such as the House may join, be appointed a Committee to consider what measures may be taken to *secure the advantages of secret ballot in the Commonwealth.*

IN THE HOUSE. The Annual Reports of the Stoughton Branch and Dorchester and Milton Branch Railroads; the petitions of Joel Adams and others, for a Bank in Lowell; of the Dorchester and Milton Bank, for a renewal of its charter, were severally presented and referred.

The Speaker announced the Committee on the part of the House, on the order in relation to an earlier organization of several departments of the Government, to consist of Messrs. Russell of Boston, Freeman of Wellfleet, Parsons of Northampton, Chard of Gloucester, and Converse of Windsor.

The following order was adopted:—

On motion of Mr. Wilson of Natick, that the Committee on the Judiciary consider the expediency of providing by law against the issuing of stock by any Corporation, for less than its par value.

Mr. Safford of Dorchester, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to amend the law relating to the compensation of Sheriffs.

The orders of the day were taken up and the House resumed the consideration of the plurality bill.

Mr. Earle of Worcester continued his speech commenced on Saturday, in opposition to the bill, and in reply to a portion of the remarks of Mr. Lawrence of Belchertown. He concluded at 5 minutes before 2 o'clock, when Mr. Lawrence made a few remarks by way of explanation, and then the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, January 22, 1850.

IN THE SENATE, this morning, Mr. Preston presented the report of the Special Committee on erecting the fountains in the State House yard, containing the statement of their cost, &c.

Among the petitions presented were those of Samuel Adams, of Boston, for compensation for services rendered during the Shay's Rebellion; of the Housatonic Bank, and the Market Bank for renewal; and Jonathan Warren and others, for incorporation as the Grafton High School Association.

The bill concerning damages for neglect in highways was passed to be engrossed.

HOUSE. The House was called to order at 12. Prayers were made by Rev. Mr. Degen.

Senate papers were concurrently disposed of.

The following reports were made from committees:

By Mr. Kuhn of Boston, Committee on Mercantile Affairs and Insurance—bills, to extend the time for paying in the capital stock of the Cochituate Fire Insurance Company; to repeal a portion of the act to incorporate the United Interest Insurance Company.

By Mr. Lawrence of Belchertown, Special Committee on the valuation of the property of the State, bill to ascertain the ratable estates within the Commonwealth.

Severally placed in the orders of the day.

By Mr. Gifford of Duxbury, Committee on Towns, orders of notice on the petitions of the town of Auburn, and of C. G. Stevens and others.

Severally adopted.

The orders of the day were called up at half past twelve, and the House resumed the consideration of the plurality bill, the question being on its recommitment—Mr. Schouler of Boston, having withdrawn his motion to recommit. On this question the yeas and nays were ordered.

Messrs Hoar of Concord, Griswold of Greenfield, and Hopkins of Northampton spoke on the question—the first mainly in deprecation of the introduction of party topics and personal allusions—the second in favor of the plurality system—and the last in support of adhering to the majority principle. Mr. Hopkins finished, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 23.

IN THE SENATE the following bills passed to be engrossed: Concerning the Fitchburg and Worcester Railroad; concerning the Hope Insurance Company; authorizing Thomas Whorf, Jr., to build a wharf; concerning the Medway Branch Railroad.

Among the petitions presented were those of William F. Veazie for the lease of the wharf at Warren Bridge, and of Henry Frothingham and others for a repeal of the Usury Laws.

Bills were reported, to incorporate the Suffolk Gas Company and the Worcester Gas Light Company.

A resolve was reported for the relief of Daniel Walker, a revolutionary soldier, of Worcester county.

It was reported that it is inexpedient to legislate on the petition of Foster Bryant, for a subscription to the Intellectual Arithmetic.

Ordered, that the Committee on Mercantile Affairs and Insurance consider the expediency of reducing the rates of inspection of sole leather.

HOUSE. The House was called to order at 12. Prayers by Rev. Mr. Degen.

Papers from the Senate were disposed of in concurrence.

Reports from Committees were made as follows:

Committee on Towns—Order of notice on the petition of Ebenezer Parker and others, adopted.

Committee on the Judiciary—Leave to withdraw on the several petitions of F. P. Appleton and others; Samuel L. Worcester and others; A. C. King and others. Also, that it is inexpedient to legislate concerning, with relation to the issuing of stock under par by Corporations. Also bills—relating to the sale of anthracite coal; in relation to mortgages; to prohibit the running of railroad trains between sunrise and sunset on the Sabbath, except in cases of necessity and charity.

Committee on Railways and Canals—Leave to withdraw on the petition of Daniel Ballard and others.

Severally placed in the orders of the day.—*Transcript.*

THURSDAY, January 24.

IN SENATE. The petition of the Boston and Worcester Railroad for an increase of Capital Stock, was presented by Mr. Merrick.

The bill concerning the Fitchburg and Worcester Railroad and the Resolves concerning a National Board of Agriculture, were passed to be engrossed.

A Bill was reported for the protection of the Fisheries in the neighborhood of Nantucket.

IN THE HOUSE. The House was called to order at 12. Prayers by Rev. Mr. Degen.

Papers from the Senate were disposed of in concurrence.

The Speaker announced the appointment of the following Committees:

On the petition of the Massachusetts Medical Society—Messrs. Warren of Boston, Elliot of Littleton, Abbott of Danvers, Hamlin of Plainfield, and Brigham of Westboro'.

On the Senate order in relation to the Secret Ballot—Messrs. Plimpton of Boston, Cowdry of Stoneham, Kimball of Salem, Bliss of Cheshire, and Bates of Granville.

The bills—to continue in force the charter of the Hope Insurance Company; to authorise Thomas R. Whorf, jr., to build a wharf—were severally passed to be enacted.

Reports from Committees were made as follows:

By Mr. Lawrence of Belchertown, Committee on the Judiciary, leave to withdraw on the petition of Eliot Shumway and others.

By Mr. Hoar of Concord, same Committee, reference to the next General Court, of an order in relation to requiring certain statistical returns from Town Clerks and Assessors.

By Mr. Codman of Boston, same Committee, bill concerning bonds to dissolve attachments.

By Mr. Bigelow of Walpole, Committee on Education, leave to withdraw on the petition of Henry Parker and others.

The orders of the day were taken up at twenty minutes before one, and the consideration of the plurality bill was resumed.

Mr. Banks of Waltham concluded his speech in favor of the bill, and was followed by Mr. Boutwell of Groton, on the same side. Adjourned.

A writer in the Nashville True Whig, of the 1st instant, asserts that there is not in Tennessee one man in a thousand who favors disunion in any shape, or under any circumstances.

A member of Parliament, alluding to the fact that Lord John Russell married two widows, called the diminutive Premier "the widow's mite that was cast into the treasury!"

FIRE IN STOUGHTON. The third fire in Stoughton for upwards of 20 years occurred in the destruction of Mr. Charles Littlefield's boot manufactory. The loss was from $1200 to $1500, but fully insured.

VERMONT. The constitutional convention decided in favor of the people electing assistant justices of the county courts, sheriffs, bailiffs, state attorneys, judges of probate, and justices of the peace.

FUN IN AGRICULTURE. Earth is so kind in Australia, that just tickle her with a hoe and she laughs with a harvest. [Jerrold.

The number of deaths in New York city last week was 303. Of consumption 50, under two years of age 89.

A large right whale was taken on Monday morning in Provincetown harbor, by several persons who discovered him from the shore, and put off in boats to capture the visitor.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, Jan. 15, Walter M. Brackett to Maria Louise, daughter of Caleb G. Loring, Esq.

Jan. 17, at Park street Church, by Rev Mr Stone, Mr John Wade to Miss Charlotte A. Dexter, both of Boston.

Jan. 20, by Rev Phineas Stow, Mr Ralph Foster to Mrs Eliza Seaman.

Jan. 21, by Rev Henry V. Degen, Mr Horatio N. Hibbard to Miss Martha Seaver, both of Boston.

Jan. 22, Mr Alexander McKillop to Miss Jennette Wolfe.

In Roxbury, Jan. 16, Mr Franklin Copeland to Miss Elizabeth Marion, daughter of Charles Ellis, Esq., both of R.

In Dorchester, Jan. 15, Mr Alfred Nye of Boston, to Miss Sophia A. Hildreth of D. 1st, Mr Daniel Pierce to Miss Sarah Gay; 20th, Mr J. H. Case to Miss Elizabeth G. Gates, daughter of Mr Benj. Gates.

In Canton, Jan. 16, Samuel Bradley Noyes, Esq., to Miss Georgiana, daughter of Mr James Beaumont, all of C.

In Lowell, Jan. 22d, Mr Wm. P. McKay of Boston, to Miss Mary Sabine Green.

In Westborough, Jan 1st, by Rev Daniel R. Cady, Mr Edmund H. Priest to Miss Emily M. Rawson, both of Westborough.

[A piece of excellent cake accompanied the card announcing this marriage. May they always have a plenty and plenty of friends to help them enjoy it.]

In Marshfield, on Thursday evening, 17th inst, by Luther Hatch, Esq., Mr Jonathan W. Wade to Miss Celia A. Fish, all of Marshfield.

In Wrentham, Jan. 7, Alonzo Follett, of Boston, to Miss Catharine J. Fuller of W.

In Providence, R. I., Chauncy G. Fuller of Wrentham, to Celia C. Blackington of Attleboro'. Jan 18, Mr Eben S. Pearce, to Miss Elizabeth Holbrook of Roxbury.

In New Orleans, Jan. 9, Durant da Pont, Esq., Assistant Editor of the Picayune, to Sophia, daughter of Wm Brooke, Esq.

DEATHS.

In this city, Mr Rufus K. Fails, 20, formerly of Portsmouth, N. H.

Jan. 19, Frank Bacon Stoddard, only son of Wm H. and Lucy Stoddard, 7 mos 14 days.

Jan. 19, Miss Sally Foster, daughter of the late Mr James Foster, 65.

Jan. 19, Georgiana, youngest child of Silas G. and Sarah S. Whitney, 4 yrs 9 mos.

Jan. 20, Miss Prudence Farrington, 81.

Jan. 21, Mary Ella, daughter of Samuel B. and Mary A. Krogman, 2 yrs 3 mos

Jan. 22, James W., only child of James and Augusta M. Brokenshire, 7 yrs 11 mos.

In North Chelsea, 23d inst, Mrs Martha, wife of Mr Bill Tewakbury, 65.

In Charlestown, Jan. 18, of consumption, Olive H., wife of Josiah Libbey, and only daughter of Triphena Langly, 26 yrs 8 mos. Jan. 19, of consumption. Mr Charles K. Foster, 49. Mr Joshua Freeman 44. Jan. 22, Mrs Sarah, widow of the late Mr Joseph Brown, 78. Jan. 24, Allen Prince, eldest son of James B. and Judith D. Beal, 22 mos. 17 days.

In Somerville, Jan. 16, Mr Charles Brown of Duxbury, 47.

In East Cambridge, Jan 20, Miss C. Maria Lambert, 26.

In Malden, Jan. 19, suddenly, Mrs Hannah, wife of Mr Rowland Center, formerly of Charlestown, 78. Jan. 21, Mrs Phœbe A., wife of Henry E. Turner, 37.

In Brighton, Jan. 19, Mrs Phebe Goodwin, 60, a native of Taunton, Mass.

In North Bridgewater, Jan. 19, Hon. Abel Kingman, 81.

In Princeton, Mass., Jan. 16, Mrs Lucy Everett, wife of Mr Wm Everett, 84.

In Leominster, Jan. 18, Charles Watson, son of the late John and Mary W. Burrage, 12.

In Hallowell, Me., Jan. 16, of inflammation of the brain, Frank Shaler, son of George B. Stearns, formerly of this city, 12.

In Bangor, Jan. 15, Dea. George W. Brown, 57, formerly of Concord, Mass.

In Newport, R. I., Jan. 18, Mrs Alice W., widow of Silas Ward, Esq., 54.

In New Haven, Ct., Jan. 18, Mrs Harriet, wife of Prof. B. Silliman, senior.

In Pike, N. Y., Capt. Joshua Whitney, 90, a soldier of the revolution.

In St. Louis, Mrs Elizabeth Holman, 48, formerly of Beverly, Mass.

In California, Charles Brown, Jr., of Newburyport. Lot Stoddard of Cohasset.

OBITUARY NOTICE.

Died at North Woburn, January 3d inst., Josephine, daughter of Mr. Charles and Mrs. Nichols, aged 8 years; January 6th, Mrs. Esther Eaton, wife of Mr. Noah Eaton and mother of the above Mrs. Nichols, aged 54 years; January 10th, Mrs. Nichols herself, aged 31 years; and January 12th, Mr. Leonard W. Parks, her husband's brother-in-law, aged 31 years. Thus have passed away from earth, within nine days, and each after a very short sickness, four members of the same family connexion, three of whom were heads of families, and all of them deservedly dear to surviving relatives, highly esteemed by the whole community to which they belonged. The decease of Mr Parks especially, an industrious and enterprising citizen, fair and honorable in his extensive business transactions, kind and benevolent in all the intercourse of life, is felt to be a great loss. These four deaths, occurring so suddenly, and following one another in such rapid succession, have involved the families and numerous kindred of the deceased in deep affliction, and spread an observable gloom over the whole Village in which they lived. The services at their several funerals were solemnized at the Meeting-House; and those at Mr. Parks's funeral were attended not only by a throng of mourning relatives and friends, but by the Woburn Military Phalanx in uniform, and Society of Odd Fellows, to both which he belonged, and who did the accustomed honors at the interment of his remains.

NUMBER OF DEATHS IN BOSTON, for the week ending on Saturday, Jan. 19th, 65.

Causes—Accidental 2; apoplexy 1; bronchitis 1; inflammation of brain 1; consumption 8; convulsions 1; cancer 1; croup 5; child bed 1; debility 1; delirium tremens 1; dropsy 1; do of brain 3; erysipelas 1; exhaustion 1; typhus fever 1; typhoid do 1; scarlet do 2; lung do 4; disease of hip 1; whooping cough 1; disease of heart 1; infantile diseases 3; inflammation of lungs 5; disease of liver 1; marasmus 1; measles 1; old age 2; peritonitis 2; palsy 1; rheumatism 1; disease of stomach 1; small pox 2; disease of throat 2; teething 1; ulcers 1; unknown 1.

The above includes 11 deaths at the City Institutions. Americans 25; foreigners and children of foreigners, 40. Males, 33; females 33. Children under 5 years, 27.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

[For the week commencing January 27.]

Days of the Week.	Sun Rises.	Sun Sets.	Moon rises.	Length of Days.
SUNDAY.	7 18	5 8	4 58a	9 49
MONDAY.	7 18	5

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Washington, January 21, 1850.

To the House of Representatives of the United States:

I transmit to the House of Representatives, in answer to the resolution of that body, passed on the 21st of December last, the following reports of Heads of Departments, which contain all the official information in the possession of the Executive, asked for by the resolution:

On coming into office, I found the Military Commandant of the Department of California exercising the functions of civil Governor in that territory; and left, as I was, to act under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, without the aid of any legislative provision establishing a government in that territory, I thought it best not to disturb the arrangements made under my predecessor, until Congress should take some action on that subject. I therefore did not interfere with the powers of the military commandant, who continues to exercise the functions of civil Governor, as before; but I made no such appointment, conferred no such authority, but have allowed increased compensation to the Commandant for his services.

With a view to the faithful execution of the treaty so far as laid in the power of the Executive, and to enable Congress to act at the present session with as full knowledge, and as little difficulty as possible on all matters of interest in these territories, I sent the honorable Thomas Butler King as bearer of despatches to California, and certain officers to California and New Mexico, whose duties are particularly defined in the accompanying letters of instruction, addressed to them severally by the proper departments. I did not hesitate to express to the people of these territories my desire that each territory should, if prepared to comply with the requisitions of the Constitution of the United States, form a plan of a State Constitution, and submit the same to Congress, with a prayer for admission into the Union as a State; but I did not anticipate, suggest, or authorize the establishment of any such government without the assent of Congress: nor did I authorize any government agent or officer to interfere with, nor exercise any influence or control over the election of delegates, or over any Convention, in making or modifying their domestic institutions, or any of the provisions of the proposed Constitution. On the contrary, the instructions given by my orders were, that all measures of domestic policy must originate solely with themselves; but while the Executive was desirous to protect and defend them in the formation of any Government, Republican in its character, to be at the proper time submitted to Congress, yet it was to be distinctly understood that the plan of such a Government must at the same time be the result of their own deliberate choice, and originate with themselves, without the interference of the Executive.

I am unable to give any information as to laws passed by any supposed government in California, or of any census taken in either of the territories mentioned in the resolution, as I have no information on these subjects. As already stated, I have not disturbed the arrangements which I found had existed under my predecessor. In advising an early application by the people of the territories for admission as states, I was actuated principally by an earnest desire to afford to the wisdom and patriotism of Congress the opportunity of avoiding angry dissensions among the people of the United States.

Under the constitution every state has the right of establishing and from time to time altering its municipal laws and domestic institutions, independently of every other state, and of the general government, subject only to the propositions and guarantees expressly set forth in the constitution of the United States. The subjects thus left exclusively to the respective states were not designed or expected to become topics of national agitation. Still, as under the constitution "Congress has power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territories of the United States," every new acquisition of territories has led to discussions on the question whether the system of involuntary servitude which prevails in many of the states should or should not be prohibited in that territory.

The periods of excitement from this cause which have heretofore occurred have been safely passed, but during the interval of whatever length may elapse before the admission of the territories ceded by Mexico as states, it appears probable that similar excitements will prevail to an undue extent. Under these circumstances I thought and still think that it was my duty to endeavor to put it in the power of Congress, by the admission of California and New-Mexico as states, to remove all occasion for the unnecessary agitation of the public mind.

It is understood that the people of the western part of California have formed a plan of a State Constitution, and will soon submit the same to the judgment of Congress, and apply for admission as a state. This course on their part, though in accordance with, was not adopted exclusively in consequence of, any expression of my wishes, inasmuch as measures tending to this end had been promoted by the officers sent there by my predecessor, and were already in active progress of execution before any communication reached me from California. If the proposed Constitution shall, when submitted to Congress, be found to be in compliance with the requisitions of the Constitution of the United States, I earnestly recommend that it may receive the sanction of Congress.

The part of California not included in the proposed state of that name, is believed to be uninhabited, except in a settlement of our countrymen in the vicinity of Salt Lake.

A claim has been advanced by the state of Texas to a very large portion of the most populous district of the territory commonly designated by the name of New Mexico. If the people of New Mexico had formed a plan of state government for that territory, as ceded by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and had been admitted by Congress as a state, our constitution would have afforded the means of obtaining an adjustment of the question of boundary with Texas by a judicial decision.

At present, however, no judicial tribunal has the power of deciding that question, and it remains for Congress to devise some mode for its adjustment. Meanwhile I submit to Congress the question whether it would be expedient, before such adjustment, to establish a territorial government which, by including the District so claimed, would practically decide the question adversely to the state of Texas—excluding it would decide it in her favor. In my opinion such a course would not be expedient—especially as the people of this territory still enjoy the benefit and protection of their municipal laws originally derived from Mexico, and have a military force stationed there to protect them from the Indians.

It is undoubtedly true that the property, lives, liberty, and religion of the people of New-Mexico are better protected than they ever were before the treaty of cession. Should Congress, when California shall present herself for an incorporation into the Union, annex a condition to her admission as a state, affecting her domestic institutions, contrary to the wishes of her people, and even compel her temporarily to comply with it, yet the state could change her constitution at any time after admission, when to her it should seem expedient.

As is to be expected, any attempt to deny to the people of the states the rights of self-government in a matter which peculiarly affects themselves, will infallibly be regarded by them as an invasion of their right, and upon the principle laid down in our own Declaration of Independence, they will certainly be sustained in their resistance against it by the great mass of the American people. To assert that they are a conquered people, and must submit to the will of their conquerors in this regard, will meet with no cordial response among American freemen. Great numbers of them are our own countrymen, not inferior to the rest in intelligence and patriotism; and no language of menace, to restrain them in the exercise of an undoubted right substantially guaranteed to them by the treaty of cession itself, shall ever be uttered by me or encouraged and sustained by persons acting under my authority.

It is to be expected that in the residue of the Territory ceded to us by Mexico, the people residing there, will at the time of their incorporation into the Union as a state, settle all questions of domestic policy to suit themselves.

No material inconvenience will result from the want, for a short period, of a government established by Congress over that part of the territory which lies eastward of the new state of California; and the reasons for my opinion that New-Mexico will at no very distant period ask admission into the Union, are founded on unofficial information, which I suppose is common to all who have cared to make inquiries on the subject.

Seeing then, that the subject which now excites such painful sensations in the country will in the end certainly be settled by the silent effect of causes independent of the action of Congress, I again submit to your wisdom the policy recommended in my annual message of awaiting the salutary operation of these causes, believing that we shall thus avoid the creation of geographical parties, and secure the harmony of feeling so necessary to the beneficial actions of our political system.

Connected as the Union is with the remembrance of past happiness—the sense of present blessings and the hope of future peace and prosperity, every dictate of wisdom, every feeling of duty, and every emotion of patriotism, tend to inspire fidelity and devotion to it, and admonish us cautiously to avoid any unnecessary controversy which can either endanger it or impair its strength—the chief element of which is to be found in the regard and affection of the people for each other.

ZACHARY TAYLOR.

CONGRESSIONAL.

FRIDAY, Jan. 18.

The Senate was not in session, having adjourned until Monday.

In the House the message from General Taylor, on the Territories, and the correspondence communicated, lie on the Speaker's table, sealed up. The reading of the message is superseded by the election of Doorkeeper. An attempt was made to get at it, but the House decided that a Doorkeeper must be first chosen. After three ineffectual ballotings, on the last of which C. L. Weller of Ohio (Democrat) only lacked one vote of an election, the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, Jan. 19.

In the House, the order of the day being the election of a Doorkeeper, Mr. Baker renewed his motion of Friday, to postpone the election until the 1st of March next, in order to take up the sealed messages from President Taylor, supposed to relate to the territories. The motion was carried by a majority of two.

Mr. Ashmun moved a reconsideration, pending which the House adjourned until Monday.

MONDAY, Jan. 21.

In the Senate, Mr. Hunter gave notice of a bill to abolish the Home Department.

The Senate then proceeded to the reconsideration of the special order, the resolution submitted some time since by Mr. Foote, declaring it to be the duty of Congress at the present session to provide Territorial Government for the Territories.

Mr. Cass proceeded to address the Senate on the question of the Wilmot Proviso.

In the House, after an unimportant talk upon the subject of the election of doorkeeper, during which Mr. Preston King declared that "the friends of slavery on both sides have been unwilling to vote for men opposed to slavery," and the Speaker replied "that the question did not open that of slavery," the subject got the go-by, and the Speaker read the message from the President in relation to California, which will be found in another column.

After reading the message, an adjournment was moved and carried.

TUESDAY, Jan. 22.

In the Senate, Mr. Cass resumed and concluded his remarks opposed to the Wilmot Proviso. At a proper time he would vote and resign.

The memorial of the citizens of Deseret for the establishment of a Port was debated and referred.

Mr. Foote's Territorial bill was then referred, and the Senate adjourned.

In the House, the joint resolution for purchasing of hemp for the navy was referred.

A resolution for inquiry into the expediency of refunding to Vermont, monies expended for maintaining neutrality in the Canadian difficulty with Great Britain, was adopted.

The House then went into Committee of the whole, Mr. Boyd in the chair. Mr. Baily introduced a resolution for referring the President's annual message appropriately. Mr. Clingman spoke one hour. He would rather see dissolution—rather the South, like Poland, would be under the iron heel of the conqueror, than yield her rights. Mr. Howard of Texas, followed, sustaining ultra Southern grounds. On motion of Mr. McClernand, the Committee rose, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 23.

Senate—Mr. Clay presented a memorial in favor of printing Washington's Farewell Address, for dissemination—referred. The Vermont resolution was then taken up. Mr. Phelps, in a speech of some length, said he would first let Congress decide, constitutionally, the Wilmot proviso, and if the South was not satisfied, then let the Supreme Court decide, and the South would abide the decision. Mr. R. Yulee said the South would agree. Mr. Butler, in behalf of the South, objected. Mr. Phelps said the only alternative was for the South to withdraw, when the national property, including the territories, would remain with the supporters of the the Union. If this was not acceptable, and an appeal to arms was considered necessary, it remained with the North to be prepared.

The Senate then went into executive session, and adjourned.

House. Mr. Strong, from the Committee on Elections, reported, that testimony be taken before the state authorities, concerning the contested election in Iowa. An animated debate took place, in which Messrs. Ashmun and Schenck spoke in behalf of the contested member, and Messrs. Stanton, Strong and others in behalf of the sitting member. The Chair decided that members should be instructed not to refer to the proceedings of the committee before they were reported to the House. Mr. Schenck made a speech in favor of limiting the time for forwarding testimony to 90 days. Mr. Seddon obtained the floor, and made a set speech on the reference of the President's message. Mr. McClernand moved its reference to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union; pending which the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, Jan. 24.

In Senate. Mr. Clay presented a petition for the purchase of Mount Vernon. Mr. Clay's resolution for the purchase of the Manuscript of Washington's Farewell Address was up, when the order of the day was called for. The business in order was the consideration of the Vermont resolutions. Mr. Butler having the floor, replied to Mr. Phelps. Mr. Chase followed. The Senate went into Executive session, and soon adjourned.

In the House. Mr. Thurston asked leave to introduce a resolution inquiring into the rights and privileges of the Hudson Bay Company and others, under treaties with this country; it was objected to. A resolution for information as to the seizure of Tigre Island, was adopted.

The message with regard to California and New Mexico, was referred to the Committee of the whole on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

The Brazil message and numerous communications from the Departments were taken up and referred; one of them from the Treasury Department, with instructions about employing additional clerks in the 3d Auditor's office. The Senate resolutions for the election of Chaplains were adopted. The House then appointed Horner, Doorkeeper, until a successor be elected. The House then went into an election of Chaplain, and a dozen candidates were presented. The election was adjourned till Monday.

CONDITION OF IRELAND. A private letter from Dublin says: "I cannot adequately describe to you the helpless and hopeless condition of this country. Poverty and distress are no respecters of persons, in the higher as well as humbler classes; many of the nobility have sold their estates and gone to Australia; the country gentlemen are all ruined, more especially in the counties of Westmeath, Roscommon, Galway and Longford. In these counties a solvent man cannot be found."

THE PARKMAN CASE. The Grand Jury of Suffolk County, having found a bill of Indictment against Dr. John White Webster for the murder of Dr. George Parkman, and returned the same to the Municipal Court in Boston, on Saturday morning, Dr. Webster was brought into Court at one o'clock, and notified that such a bill had been found, and that it would be certified to the Supreme Court, where he would be arraigned for trial. Judge Merrick has accepted the *retainer* proffered him, to act as senior counsel in the defence.

The indictment against Prof. Webster contains four counts. The first charges that he killed Dr. Parkman with a knife, the second, that he killed him with a hammer, third, that he killed him with his hands and feet, and fourth, that he killed him by "means, instruments and weapons, to the Grand Jurors unknown." This indictment also asserts that the murder was committed at the Medical College, North Grove street, on the 23d day of November last.

REDUCTION OF SALARIES. We understand that a consultation between the Collector of this port and his deputies was held yesterday, on the subject of reducting the expenditures at the Custom House. We do not know the result of their action, but it is rumored that it is probable, that some twenty-six per cent will be withheld from the salaries of all the clerks and officers employed in the Custom House, due on the 1st of February next. [N. Y. Evening Post.

The receipts for duties at the New York Custom House, during the first five days of the last week were eleven hundred thousand dollars, and it was expected that the receipts of Saturday would swell the amount to a million and a half. If the Sub Treasury absorbes at this rate for a few weeks, we shall have another seriors pinch in the money market. [Newburyport Herald.

CHARLESTOWN CITY ELECTION. The fourth trial to elect a Mayor for Charlestown was made on Monday, without success. The whole number of votes cast was 1541. G. Washington Warren had 728; James Adams 683; Richard Frothingham, jr., 76; Philip B. Holmes 43; and 11 scattered.

The New Steamship Columbus, built to run between Philadelphia and Charleston, has been bought into by Mr. Law of New York, and after coppering, she will leave New York in about ten days for the Pacific, direct, and will ply between Panama and San Francisco.

COCHITUATE RESERVOIR IN HOPKINTON.—In consequence of the late heavy rains, the level of water in the Compensation Reservoir in Hopkinton is now higher by three feet than it was at the same period last year; still it requires a further depth of 48 1-4 inches of water to fill the reservoir to the top of the dam.

FASHIONABLE EDUCATION. "Father," said a lady to her indulgeut spouse, as he resumed his pipe after supper one evening, "you must buy our dear Georgiana an English Grammar and spelling book. She has gone through her French, Latin and Greek, music, drawing and dancing, and now must commence her English studies."

MR. WETMORE'S DEFALCATION.—A correspondent of the New-York Tribune states that Mr. Wetmore has made a proposition to pay government about one hundred thousand dollars of his deficiency within a week or two, and that he has increased his claims to about eighty-five thousand dollars on which he will stand a suit.

ICE. The New England Ice Company have their houses entirely filled with about twelve thousand tons of splendid ice, ten to twelve inches thick, at their beautiful lake in South Reading. They are now prepared for shipping at the usual winter rates. Mr. Otis H. Weed, No. 69 Hanover street, is their agent.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION. During the last few months, bills have passed as follows: Maine exempts a Homestead to the value of $500, and, in the absence of a Homestead, personal property to that amount. Vermont exempts a Homestead to the value of $500; Iowa and Minnesota, 40 acres of land, or a lot; California, 320 acres of land, or a lot worth $2000; Deseret, it is said, secures a home to every family. Georgia, Texas, Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Connecticut had previously enacted similar laws. Other States are moving. [Chronotype.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The American Poultry Yard,

THE BEST WORK ON POULTRY

EVER PUBLISHED,

COMPRISING the origin, history, and description of different breeds of Domestic Poultry, with complete directions for their breeding, crossing, fattening, and preparation for market—including specific directions for caponizing fowls, and for the treatment of the principal diseases to which they are subject.

Drawn from authentic sources and personal observation. Illustrated by numerous engravings. By D. J. Brown, Author of the Sylva Americana; with appendix, embracing the comparative merits of the various breeds of Fowls, by Samuel Allen. Price $1, cloth; 75c. paper.

"We apprehend that this work is unique in character. We could not number none so complete or so practical. It describes all the various breeds of domestic poultry known in this country, and gives ample directions for their breeding, rearing, fattening, and preparation for market. The appendix, by Mr. Allen, a practical man, is scarcely less valuable than the main body of the book. The wood cuts are numerous and faithful." [Com. Advertiser.

"This is undoubtedly the best work of the kind in print, and from the interest taken in the subject on which the volume before us treats, we have no doubt it will have an extensive sale; at any rate, it is deserving of such. [Boston Bee.

—ALSO—

New edition of Allen's American Farm Book. Price $1.
Allen's Diseases of Domestic Animals—75c.
Miner's American Bee Keeper's Manual—$1.
Guenon's Milch Cows, new edition—37 c.

FOR SALE BY

The American Bird Fancier—25c.

Published at C. M. SAXTON'S Agricultural Bookstore, 121 Fulton street, N. Y.

And for sale by TAPPAN, WHITTEMORE & MASON, 1 & 4 Washington street, Boston. 2w jan26

Petition and Order.

To the Hon. Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

THE undersigned legal voters of Franklin, respectfully represent that their interest and convenience would be greatly promoted by an alteration of the boundary line between the towns of Medway and Franklin, viz.,—commencing at a point on the line between the towns of Bellingham and Franklin, about one hundred and fifty rods Southerly of a stone monument, standing on a town road about ninety rods Southwesterly of the house of Ellery Allen; thence Easterly in a straight line, or nearly so, to a point on a town road about fifty rods Southerly of the house of Nathan Daniels; thence Northeasterly, in a straight line, to the Southerly end of Populatic Pond; thence Northerly along the Western bank of said Pond, to Medway line.

They therefore pray your honorable bodies to make the alteration in said boundary line as above described, and annex all the territory Northerly of said line, within the town of Franklin, with the inhabitants thereon, to the town of Medway.

STEPHEN W. RICHARDSON and others.

Franklin, Dec. 20, 1849.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN SENATE, Jan. 15, 1850.

ON the Petition aforesaid, Ordered, That the Petitioners cause an attested copy of their Petition with this Order thereon, to be served upon the Town Clerk of Franklin and Medway and be published in the Massachusetts Ploughman, a newspaper published at Boston, and in the Norfolk Democrat, published at Dedham, two weeks successively, the said service to be 14 days and the last of said publication to be seven days, at least, before the 12th day of February next, that all persons interested, may then appear, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said Petition should not be granted.

Sent down for concurrence.

CHAS. CALHOUN, Clerk.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 15.

Concurred. CHAS. W. STOREY, Clerk.

A True Copy, Attest.

CHAS. CALHOUN, Clerk of the Senate.

jan26 2w

Notice.

WHEREAS, my son, Geo. Frederick Dudley, a minor of 18 refuses to stay at home, I hereby forbid all persons harboring or trusting him on my account, for I shall pay no debts of his contracting after this date.

CURTIS DUDLEY.

Westborough, Jan. 15, 1850. 3t jan26

Farm for Sale.

Situated about two miles West of the centre of the town of Petersham, in the County of Worcester, containing between Seventy and Eighty Acres of excellent land, well divided into Mowing, Pasturing, Tillage, Woodland and Orcharding, with good Buildings and two never failing wells of water.

The above Farm will be sold on very reasonable terms and possession given the first of April next.

For further particulars, inquire of SPENCER FIELD, Barre, or S. WETHERELL, Esq., Post Master, Petersham, Mass. SPENCER FIELD.

jan26 6w

Public Auction!

FARM AND WATER PRIVILEGE FOR SALE

Will be sold at Public Auction, on the 20th of March next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., on the premises; a certain Farm, situated in the Southerly part of Fitchburg, on the Main Road leading from Fitchburg to Leominster, 2½ miles from the Fitchburg Railroad Depot, and about 1½ miles from Leominster Depot, having a Dwelling-House and Barn thereon standing; said Dwelling-House containing 6 rooms. The Nashua River runs through said Farm, and forms one of the best Water Privileges in Worcester County.

Said Farm contains 41 acres of Land, well divided into Mowing, Tillage, Woodland, Pasture, &c., six acres of the same being heavily Timbered. On account of the location of the above, it forms a most desirable opportunity for those who wish to invest in property of this kind.

Also, will be sold at the same time and place, 12 acres of Land, lately cleared of Wood and Timber, situated within 25 rods of the above. This will be sold in connection with the above, or separate, as desired.

Also, will be sold at the same time and place, if not previously disposed of, the following Personal Property, viz:—75000 feet Lumber, 200 cords of hard and soft Wood, 6 or 10 tons of Hay, on said Farm, a lot of Corn and Potatoes, 1 large Pedlers' Wagon, suitable for an Express Wagon, 1 Carryall, suitable for one or two Horses, and one Buggy Wagon. Also, other articles too numerous to mention.

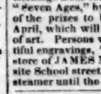
Terms of sale easy, and made known at the time and place aforesaid.

For further information concerning the above, call upon A. W., or S. H. CROSSMAN,

at the Scythe Factory of C. F. CROSSMAN & CO., South Fitchburg.

Fitchburg, Jan. 26. ts

Farm for Sale.



The Subscriber wishes to sell his Farm situated in Northboro', and known as the Underwood Farm, containing 170 acres of first rate land. The Buildings are a good double House, 40 by 38, with a Barn 100 by 36, Cellar under the whole, all in good condition.

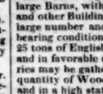
Said Farm has been used as a Milk Farm the last five years and produced nearly $1000 worth of Milk the past season. Price $6500. A large portion of which can remain on the place if desired.

For particulars, inquire of the Subscriber, or Mr. J. H. CRAWFORD, near the premises.

JAMES DAVIS.

Northboro', Jan. 26. tAp1

Farms! Farms!!



Persons that have Farms for sale the ensuing season, can have their business attended to by an experienced Land Agent on application to the subscriber, who continues to give his personal attention to selling Farms. Also, exchanging Farms for property in Boston or vicinity. No fee is required unless the property is advertised or a sale effected. Also, those wishing to purchase or to invest in mortgages, will find this Office a desirable medium. All letters Post Paid will receive immediate attention.

J. W. MAYNARD, No. 5, Congress street, Boston.

jan26

Valuable Farm for Sale,

Pleasantly situated in the South part of Marshfield in the County of Plymouth, one fourth of a mile from the South Meeting-house, containing fifty acres of excellent land, suitably divided into Mowing, Tillage and Pasture; with a valuable Orchard, a Two-story Dwelling-House, Corn-House, a new and commodious Barn, with a Cellar under the same, and other convenient Out-buildings, in good repair, thereon.

Any person wishing to purchase such a Farm, would do well to call and examine for himself.

For further particulars, inquire of JOHN FORD in said town, JOSEPH EVERSON of Kingston, or the Subscriber on the premises.

CHARLES W. THOMAS.

Marshfield, Jan. 26. tAp15

In Stoddard, N. H.

One Hundred and Ten Acres of Pasture Land for Sale, situated 1½ miles South of the centre of the town. It is the very best grazing land in the County, free from brush and stone, and well fenced with stone wall. There are on the same about 2 acres of a fine growth sugar-maple Trees. It will be sold or exchanged for property in Boston or vicinity. Price $1,000.

Apply to E. H. F. COBURN, at No. 73 Cambridge street. 3t* jan26

Ho! For California,

BY Jas. Jackson Jarves, Esq., 1v. 12mo. Scenes in California and the Sandwich Islands; and a trip through Central America, being observations from my note book, 1837-42. Also, Jarves's History of the Sandwich Islands. Whoever would find an account of the Islands, both amusing and instructive, will not fail to buy and read Mr. J's books—more accurate than from any other source.—Order of JAMES MUNROE & CO., Publishers, 134 Washington, opposite School street. jan26

Map of the Gold Diggings.

A CORRECT Map of the Gold Diggings and Bay of San Francisco, exhibiting a correct view of the bay, town and coast, besides all the new towns, ranchos, roads, dry and wet diggings, with their usual distances from each other, from actual survey made in June—can be sent by mail—12½c. Published by JAMES MUNROE & CO., 134 Washington, opposite School street. jan26

Only $5 50.

FOR the above price every subscriber to the Art-Union of London will be entitled to a pair of Line Engravings, "The Smile," and "The Frown," with a series of Etchings from original drawings, illustrating Shakspeare's "Seven Ages," by Maclise, and the chance of obtaining one of the prizes to be distributed at the general meeting in April, which will include the right to select a valuable work of art. Persons wishing to subscribe can see the two beautiful engravings, "The Smile," and "The Frown," at the store of JAMES MUNROE & CO., 134 Washington, opposite School street, who will forward the names by every steamer until the 1st of March next. jan26

Administrator's Sale of Valuable

REAL ESTATE.

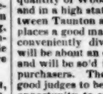
Will be sold at public Auction, on Wednesday, the thirteenth day of March next, at one o'clock, P. M., on the premises, by order of the Court of Probate, the Farm of the late Capt. Salmon Howard, situate mostly in West Bridgewater, but partly in Bridgewater, in the County of Plymouth, containing about 143 acres, on which are a large and commodious Dwelling-House, two large Barns, with a Cellar and Pump under one of them, and other Buildings, all of which are in good repair, and a large number and great variety of Fruit Trees now in a bearing condition. There are annually cut thereon about 25 tons of English Hay and about 25 tons of Meadow Hay, and in favorable seasons more than 100 bushels of Cranberries can be gathered. There is on said Farm a sufficient quantity of Wood and timber, it is well fenced and watered and in a high state of cultivation. It is about half way between Taunton and North Bridgewater, at each of which places a good market is found for its produce. It will be conveniently divided into two Farms, on each of which will be about an equal quantity of Wood and Meadow land, and will be sold in one, two or more lots as may best suit purchasers. A plan of this Farm, which is thought by good judges to be the best in the county, will afford a rare opportunity to capitalists to make a safe and profitable investment. Deeds will be given by the Administrator on the estate, and the widow of the deceased will release her dower therein.

For further information, persons wishing to purchase, may inquire of FRIEND W. HOWARD on the premises, or NAHUM LEONARD, Administrator.

Conditions liberal and made known at the sale.

West Bridgewater, Jan. 19, 1850. *tM9

For Sale,



A good Farm situated a mile & south of the centre of Petersham, on a good road leading to Barre. the said Farm contains about 170 acres of choice land well divided, into Mowing, Tillage and Pasturing. About 30 acres of the Farm is covered with heavy timber, and within half a mile of a good Sawmill. the buildings consist of a good two story House, and Barn, 62 by 36ft and other out buildings, durable water comes into the Barnyard, in lead 'pipes, the buildings are nearly new, and in good order, and for convenience few will surpass them.

For particulars inquire of the subscriber on the premises.

SAMUEL M. STEVENS.

Petersham, Jan. 19. 5w*

Farm for Sale.

Situated in East Weymouth, near the Iron Works and East Weymouth Depot. Said Farm contains about ninety acres of Land, well divided into Mowing, Pasturing, Tillage and Woodland, with a good House and Barn thereon. Price, about $3,500.

For further particulars inquire of JAMES L. LITTLE, 66 Milk street, Boston, ATHERTON TILDEN, Hingham, SOLOMON LITTLE, Marshfield, or EZRA TIRRELL, near the premises.

Weymouth, Jan'y. 19. 3t.*

Peat Lands at Auction.

By leave from the Judge of Probate, of the County of Middlesex,

Will be sold at Public Auction at the house of Edward Walcott, Esq., in Natick, on Wednesday, the 6th day of Feb. next, at 2 o'clock, P. M., all the right and interest, Samuel M. and Martha A. Perry, Minors, have to one acre of peat land near Long Pond in said Natick.

ELIJAH PERRY & MARTHA S. PERRY, Guardians to S. M. Perry, & M. A. Perre.

Natick, Jan. 19th. 3t*

Farm for Sale in Framingham.

The Subscriber being about to change his present business, offers his Farm for Sale at a reduced price, situated in the northerly part of Framingham, about 2½ miles from the Village. The Farm contains 45 Acres of Superior Farming Land, and in a good state of Cultivation, with a good House and Barn nearly new, with all necessary Out Buildings, and good Water. Also, a general assortment of Valuable Fruit Trees.

A Town School kept 9 months in the year within ¼ a mile of the House. Price $3,000.

For further information inquire of ELIPHALET WHEELER, in the Village of Framingham, or on the premises, to BRADFORD BELKNAP.

Framingham, January 19. 8w.

Commissioners' Notice.

WE, the Subscribers, having been appointed by the Hon. S. P. P. Fay, Esq., to receive and examine the claims of creditors to the Estate of

BENJAMIN WARREN,

late of Hopkinton, deceased, represented insolvent, do hereby give notice, that six months are allowed from date, to said creditors, to bring in and prove their claims, and that we shall attend that service at the Counting-room of S. D. Davenport, in Hopkinton, the third Mondays of March, April and June next, from 3 to 5 o'clock, P. M.

Dated Hopkinton, January 8th, 1850.

S. D. DAVENPORT,
AUGUSTUS PHIPPS.

jan26 3t

Western Lands

Sixteen Hundred Acres, of rich and valuable selected Land in Michigan, in a good location, will be exchanged on the most liberal terms for a Farm, or other Real Estate in New England. Such an opportunity as this seldom occurs, for any one in want of choice Western Land at a very low price, in exchange for other property, and is an object well worthy of attention,—the person making the trade would be in the receipt of a considerable amount in money.

Inquire of E. H. REDDING, Wharfinger, East Boston.

jan12 3w*

Premium Farm for Sale.

The Subscriber proposes to sell his Farm at Auction the 26th day of January, 1850, between the hours of 3 and 4 o'clock, P. M.

Said Farm contains about 220 Acres of the first quality of Land, with numerous buildings thereon, all in good repair, and all well supplied with never failing water, at an expense of $500.

Said Farm has about 20 Acres of valuable Woodland within a few rods of the "Sullivan Railroad; the rest is well divided into lots with 12 or 1500 rods of half wall, and will cut from 75 to 100 tons of Hay, and has every facility for an enterprising and extensive farmer. There is a young Orchard of 150 Grafted Apple Trees, just beginning to bear, all handsomely walled in, besides the road being lined with 200 Sugar Maples from 20 to 40 years growth, and every convenience for manufacturing from them a few hundred pounds of Sugar. Such a selection of Trees shading the highway through a Farm, is rarely found.

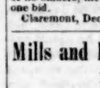
Said Farm needs no further recommendation than to say it was awarded the first premium at the late Sullivan County Fair, and was the residence of the late Maj. Ezra Jones. Should a sale be effected, possession will be given the first of April. One half the money down, and the remainder may lay for a term of years. Should there be few or no bidders, the subscriber claims the privilege of making one bid.

ROYS JONES.

Claremont, Dec. 20, 1849. 3w* jan12

Mills and Farm in Amherst Village,

FOR SALE.



The Subscriber, on account of long continued ill health, is desirous of disposing of his Mills and Farm, situated a few rods from the Court House in Amherst Village, and within three miles of the Railroad Depot

The Mills consist of a Grist and Saw Mill, Shingle Machine, Cutting-off Saw and Lath Machine.

The Grist Mill consists of Two Runs of Stones, good Bolt, and Cob Cracker.

The Farm consists of about 20 Acres of land, with a good two story Dwelling-House, containing 10 rooms in the whole, with Cellar-Kitchen, a good Barn, Wood-Shed and other Out-Buildings.

The location is one of the best for beauty, business and profit in the county, no mistake. The Subscriber will give the purchaser a good bargain.

For further information call on the Subscriber on the premises, or by letter, post paid. Possession will be given on the first of April. SAMUEL GOSS.

Amherst, N. H., Jan. 12, 1850. tf

Pasture Land for Sale.

About 100 Acres, situated in the Southwest part of Ashburnham, Worcester County. It is divided into two lots, about 50 acres each, fenced with stone wall, estimated from 200 to 300 cords of thrifty growing Wood. If not sold by 2d of April next, it will be sold at Auction on that day at 10 o'clock, P. M., on the premises.

For information, inquire of ANTIPAS MAYNARD in the Northwest part of Waltham. 6t* jan12

Cattle Ties.

Just received, per ANGLO-AMERICAN, from Liverpool,
200 doz. Cow Ties.
100 " Ox Ties.
300 " pairs Trace Chains 6½ to 7½ feet.
100 " " Leading Chains, 9 to 10 feet.
100 " " Carry Combs.

At wholesale and retail, by

RUGGLES, NOURSE, MASON & CO.,
Quincy Hall, Boston.

jan5

Calrow & Company.

FASHIONABLE TAILORS,

Elm, Corner of Hanover Street.

OFFER for sale superior READY MADE CLOTHING, manufactured in *every variety of style*, from one of the best selected Stocks in the city.

No expense has been spared in the manufacture of our garments, the extensive variety of which *cannot be excelled*. Gentlemen will please to bear in mind that we keep no Slop Clothing; while at the same time *our prices* will ensure a *sale to all*.

We are also constantly in the receipt of Goods of the *Richest Fabrics* for Fall and Winter Garments, of every variety of style, color, finish, and manufacture, from which we should be happy to receive the orders of our *friends* and others, who are in want of rich, fashionable, and durable clothing.

Price reasonable, workmanship and materials *warranted*; and punctuality in all cases strictly observed.

CALROW & COMPANY,
Elm and Hanover Streets.

nov3.

Valuable Mills.

THE undersigned, wishing to retire from business, offers for sale his Mills situated in the Village, about half a mile West of the Meetinghouse in Southboro'. The location is one of the best for Beauty, Business and Profit in the County of Worcester. Come and see.

For particulars, inquire of the Subscriber, or of ABNER PARKER, of the Boston and Southboro' Express.

Southboro', Dec. 22. 6t MOSES SAWIN.

Farm to Let

TO LET on a lease of five years at $275 a year and the taxes, a farm of 50 acres with a good House and Barn, situated on Weld and Baker Street, West Roxbury, half a mile from the railroad Station House.

Apply to JOHN C. GORE, Weld Street, West Roxbury.

Also, for sale or to let, two Houses pleasantly situated on Elliot Street, Jamaica Plains.

sept 29

Baker's Patent Gate.

THE Subscriber having purchased the right to make and sell *Baker's Patent Gate*, in the County of Plymouth, are ready to exhibit the models and make sale of the same to all who may wish to purchase.

ALLEN LEACH,
ISAIAH S. MOREY.

North Bridgewater, Jan. 12. 4t

To the Hon. S. P. P. Fay, Esquire, Judge of the Court of Probate, in and for the County of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

THE Petition of Wm. F. Holyoke of Marlborough, in the County of Middlesex, Guardian of William W. Holoke and Lydia Augusta Holyoke, minors, and the own children, respectfully represents, that the said minors are interested in cert ain tract of land situated in the Westerly part of said Marlborough, containing about Forty Acres, with a Dwelling-House, Barn and other buildings, standing thereon; said tract of land being part of the Real Estate of Gershom Bigelow, late of Marlborough, in said County, deceased, said minors deriving their title to said Estate, as Grand-children to the said Gershom Bigelow and Heirs at Law. That it will be for the benefit of said minors, that their interest therein should be disposed of, and the proceeds thereof put out and secured to them on interest; wherefore the said Guardian prays, that he may be authorized and empowered to sell and convey the same agreeably to the law in such cases made and provided.

Middlesex, ss. At a Court of Probate holden at Cambridge, in and for said County of Middlesex, on the eighth day of January, A. D. 1850.

UPON the Petition aforesaid, this day preferred, by the above named William F. Holyoke, Guardian, Ordered, that the said Petitioner, notify all persons interested therein, to appear at a Court of Probate, to be holden at Concord, in and for said County, on the second Tuesday of February next, by advertisement of the foregoing Petition, with this order thereon, three weeks successively in the newspaper called the Massachusetts Ploughman printed in Boston, the last publication to be five days at least before the said second Tuesday of February, when and where they may be heard concerning the same, and make return, under oath, of his doings herein unto said Court.

S. P. P. FAY, J. Probate.
ISAAC FISKE, Reg.

Copy, Attest,
jan12 3w*

Petition and Order.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled:

THE petition of the undersigned inhabitants of the town of Sharon, in said Commonwealth, humbly shows,

That they are a small isolated neighborhood in said town, from three to four miles distant by any road from the nearest of its school-houses; and that the only privilege of common school education which they have ever enjoyed, has been in a small school district in the neighboring town of Foxborough.

About two years since, by a vote of the town, your petitioners were annexed to the South-school district in Sharon, and our property has since been distrained and sold for the erection of a school-house therein, to remove from our dwellings, as to preclude the possibility or even the pretence, that it was intended for our accommodation.

In November last, by another act of their townsmen, your petitioners, consisting of some four or five families, were made a school district by themselves, and we are thus left to provide, as best we may, for our future school accommodations.

Your petitioners would further represent, that they are located much nearer to the centre of the town and to the centre of the business of Foxborough, than of Sharon; and that, in all respects, it would greatly conduce to their convenience to belong to the former town. We therefore, pray your honorable Body, that the section of Sharon

THE POET'S CORNER.

EVENING SONG.—*By Eliza Cook.*

Father above ! I pray to thee,
Before I make my rest !
I seek thee on my bended knee,
With warm and grateful breast]

First let me thank thee for my share
Of sweet and blessed health !
It is a boon I would not spare,
For worlds of shining wealth.

And next I thank thy bounteous hand,
That gives my "daily bread,"
That flings the corn upon the land
And keeps our table spread.

I thank thee for each peaceful night
That brings me soft repose;
I thank thee for the morning's light,
That bids my eyes unclose.

I own thy mercy when I move
With limbs all sound and free,
That gayly bear me when I rove,
Beside the moth and bee.

I thank thee for my kindred friends,
So loving and so kind;
Who tell me all that knowledge lends,
To aid my heart and mind.

Ah ! let me value as I ought
The lessons good men teach,
To bear no malice in my thought,
Nor anger in my speech.

Father above ! Oh ! hear my prayer,
And let me ever be
Worthy my earthly parents' care,
And true in serving thee.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

THE MATCH-LIGHTER OF SAN ADRIAN.

A TALE OF MEXICO.

The sun had not yet attained its meridian height above the bare and rugged mountains of Zacatecas, when a man in the garb of a Mexican miner descended slowly down a narrow and tortuous path which wound along the side of a steep declivity. At length he reached a spot where a small platform or a shelf, jutting from the mountain slope and covered with vegetation, seemed to invite him to rest. It appeared, indeed, that he had intended to stop at this spot, for he turned aside at once and seated himself on the green sward beside a fountain which here gushed from the overhanging steep, and created by its moisture the verdure that surrounded it. Directly over this spring, a large tree, a species of mountain ash, sent its thousand roots into the crevices of the rock, and shaded with its spreading branches the gushing fount and the green turf beneath.—The miner's first act was to take a long draught of the refreshing wave, and then proceeded to bathe his face and hands in the running water. When the earth-stains which covered his visage, were washed away, he appeared a young Creole of some twenty-two or three years, with a bright black eye, long straight hair, dark complexion, and a frank, gay, fearless expression of countenance. He wore a coarse jacket and loose trousers of some brown woolen stuff, bound at the waist ay a leathern girdle, in which was thrust the never failing knife. He sat for a time, whistling carelessly, with his eyes fixed on the descending path.

Presently a wide covered basket became visible in this direction, with a small hand grasping it on one side. Then a pretty face, with a pair of sparkling black eyes, and two small ruddy lips parted in a smile of pleasure and surprise, came into view. Then followed the erect and shapely figure to which the pretty face belonged gaily attired, as became a miner's wife, in a gorgeous petticoat, whereof the upper part was of a bright yellow and the lower of a flaming scarlet; an equally brilliant *reboso* or cotton shawl, of many variegated hues, was thrown over the shoulders, and the small feet were daintly encased in sky blue satin shoes.

"*En hora buena*—in good time, Margarita," said the miner, showing his white teeth. "I am here before you."

"Yes, in good truth," replied the young woman, laughing; "and I was afraid all the time that I might be too early, and the tortillas and tripoles would get cold. But now they will be a dinner fit for a governor."

With these words she quickly deposited her burden on the ground, and removed the covers, first from the basket, and then from the earthenware dishes which it contained. There was a plate of tortillas, or thin pancakes of maize, a bowl of stewed tripoles (a kind of small black beans) and another bowl containing a fiery sauce made of red pepper and tomatoes. This was the miner's simple dinner. Tearing off a piece of one of the tortillas, he twisted it with his fingers into a sort of scoop (and called in Mexico *la cuchara de Montezuma*, or Montezuma's spoon,) he dipped it into the burning sauce, and swallowed it spoon and all.

"How is it that you are so early to-day, Manuelito?" asked the female, who watched him with an affectionate smile while he was thus satisfactorily engaged.

"Because, *mi corezonita*—my little heart," replied the young man, "there is to be another blast to-day and the *administrador* wishes to have it fired while the men are at dinner."

The smile instantly disappeared from Margarita's face.

"Santa Maria!" she exclaimed, "another blast! Oh, Manuel, how long do you mean to continue in this dreadful duty."

"Until I can find a better, my life," replied the miner gaily. "Would you have me go back to my old employment of barretero—of simple miner—at six dollars a week, when, here as pagador, as the sole and trusted matchlighter, I am earning sixteen!"

"Alas!" returned Margarita, "of what use will the money be if it happens to you as to Pedro Bravo, only three months ago! Ah, I think I see his mangled body, as it was carried by our cottage, with poor Inesita crying over it. And then, there is Juan Valdez, stone-blind now for five years. And old Anton, a cripple from his youth. Of what advantage was their high wages to them!"

"None, sweet-heart," replied Manuel, "because what they won by boldness and skill they lost by carelessness. If a man will persist in firing matches when his brain is muddled with aguardiente, he must expect to suffer for it. However, I shall not be a pagador always. In good time, if it pleases San Francisco, I shall be captain of a mine. And who knows but that one of these days I may be an administrador—an overseer, and a rich man, as well as others!"

"To be sure," replied Margarita, eagerly.—"Why not you as well as Miguel Gomez! Don Miguel, forsooth, as he must be called now!—And yet I remember him when he was only a poor *buscon*—a common mine-hunter and always in debt to my father for *aguardiente* and tobacco. Yet because he happened to light on a good vein, and sold it to the English company for ten thousand dollars, and was made overseer, he thinks himself now a great gentleman, and that everybody must give way to him."

"Poor Don Miguel!" said the miner laughing. "You are too hard upon our *administrador*, Magarita. First, you refused his hand and heart, not to speak of his dollars, and then you abuse him behind his back."

"If," said Margarita hastily, "if you knew ——" and then she stopped suddenly, as if she had said more than she had intended.

"What is there that you know *mi mugerito*—my little wife, that I do not!" asked Manuel, looking up in surprise.

"It was something that happened before our marriage," replied Margarita, seriously. "I promised then to conceal it; but I have often been troubled since with the thought at my promise. If I sin in breaking it now, I will beg Padre Isidro to absolve me, for I know there should be no secrets between us two. It was Anita, the wife of Juan Padraza, the poor drunken *cargador*, who told me what she heard from her husband.

"When you and Miguel Gomez were quarrelling for love of me," continued the young woman, with naive gravity, "Juan said that Miguel promised him the place of captain of the galera, with twenty dollars a week, if he would commit a dreadful crime. It was to follow you when you were coming down the mountains, and push you off the precipice at the Rinconada, so that you might seem to have fallen by accident. Juan would not be guilty of such a horrible act for the world, but he was so afraid of the overseer that he dared not speak of it to any one but his wife. I did not know it till after we were married, and then I would not tell you because it could do no good; for Gomez knows now that if I were free to-morrow I would rather jump off the Rinconada myself than take him with all his money."

"The villain!" said Manuel, while his eyes sparkled and his hand clutched instinctively at his knife. "It is well for him, Margarita, that you did not tell me this a year ago. But perhaps he has repented of it since; he has been very good-natured to me of late. However I think his time is up. The English director, Don Jayme, came this morning from Mexico, and seems very much dissatisfied with the working of the mine. It is whispered among the men that the overseer is certain to loose his place."

"Ah, that is good news indeed!" said Margarita, clasping her hands.

"And so this was the reason," added Manuel, gaily, "why you prefered a poor *barretero*, with only his miner's pick and his dollar a day, to the rich *administrador*."

"Of what good is money," returned Margarita, earnestly, "without happiness! Riches fly away, but the good heart remains."

"That is as true as though Padro Isidro had said it," rejoined Manuel, as he rose hastily from his seat on the turf; "but time flies too, my dear little preacher, and they will be waiting for me at the mine."

The young couple separated with many affectionate injunctions on the part of the wife, to which the miner laughingly promised a punctual attention. Margarita, as she replaced the basket on her head, heard the clear, manly voice of her husband, far above her, singing the refrain of a ballad once very popular among the miners of Zacatecas, which described the good fortune of a poor adventurer of that town in former days:

Si las minas de San Ber
No dieron tan buena
No Casaria Juan Barr
Con la hija del virey.

Which may be rendered:

If Saint Barnabas's mine
Had not yielded ore so fine,
Juan Barra ne'er had wedded
A maiden of the viceroy's line.

Manuel's song ceased when he reached the Riconada, a sharp angle in the path, beside which the precipice sank plump down, a sheer descent of more than five hundred feet. The recollection of what his wife had just told him sent a cold shudder through his frame, and he had not recovered his usual gaiety when he reached the shaft. Here, in the *galera*, or great shed surrounding the pit, he found the English director, Don Jayme, the overseer, Miguel Gomez, and several clerks, miners, porters, and mule-drivers. Don Jayme seemed to be in bad humor, and the overseer looked black and sullen.

"*En hora buena*—in good time, my man," said the director. "We are all ready for you; and now let every one here be attentive to his duties. There has been too much carelessness heretofore, particularly in the blasting. Many complaints have been made among the townspeople and proprietors of the accidents which occur here. You I am told are a very skilful and quick witted workman," he continued, addressing Manuel. "It is well we have some one on whom we can rely."

Gomez listened to this significant speech without venturing to reply, but his swarthy face grew livid and his eyes flashed with baleful fire. Two horses, especially trained to the duty, were now attached to the *malacate*, a machine by which the buckets were raised and lowered in the shaft. Manuel then placed upon his head a conical hat having a socket on the top, which held a lighted candle. He took in one hand a small rope, of which the other end was held by the overseer, and by shaking which the match-lighter was to give the signal when he was ready to ascend. On the promptitude with which his ascent took place depended, of course, his safety from the effects of the explosion.

Manuel now stepped into the bucket, which was slowly lowered down the shaft, a distance of about a hundred yards. Two *arreadores*, or drivers, held the horses' heads, and waited in anxious silence for the signal from Gomez. All was still as death in the galera.

"Let go!" shouted the overseer.

The drivers loosed the heads of the horses, and the well-trained animals dashed off at once, and circled the *malacate* at full speed. In a minute the bucket rose to view—empty.

"Back! Down with it for life! for life!" exclaimed the director, stamping with impatience and anger, "Oh, what idiocy, what insanity, is this!"

The men hastened to obey his order, but before the bucket had descended a dozen yards, the roar of the explosion smote upon their ears, and a cloud of smoke and dust was driven violently up the shaft and filled the *galera*. When it cleared away the faces of all present were seen to be pale with horror.

"You villain!" cried the director to Gomez; "what is the meaning of this!"

"Upon my life—as I am a Christian—the rope shook in my hands," replied Gomez, whose whole frame seemed to tremble with nervous agitation, while his eyes carefully avoided those of the director.

The latter did not waste another word upon him, but seizing a shovel he sprang into the bucket, along with two of the miners, and was quickly lowered down the shaft. Here they set about removing, as rapidly and carefully as possible, the pile of earth and stones with which the explosion had filled the bottom of the shaft, not doubting that they should find the mangled remains of the poor match-lighter beneath them.

While they are thus engaged in a fruitless search, let us follow the actual course of Manuel's proceeding. He had just lighted the matches, and was on the point of stepping into the bucket when it was suddenly drawn up. A conviction of the overseer's perfidy instantly flashed upon him, and with it a sense of the horror of his position. But Manuel was, as the director had said, a quickwitted fellow. He knew that the workmen employed in the shaft, had, a few days before, come upon a small side cut or passage, barely large enough to admit the body of a man, and that, on tracing it to its termination, it was found to lead to an immense chamber in the old mine of San Adrian. This famous mine, as is well known, was worked shortly after the conquest of Mexico, and having yielded immense wealth to its proprietors, was abandoned about the end of the sixteenth century, on account of the difficulty experienced in its drainage. The workmen who had explored the passage, had reported that the chamber was nearly full of water, and was so large that the light of their candles did not penetrate to the further extremity. The recollection of this discovery now occurred to Manuel's mind, and seemed to offer him a chance of escape. Looking eagerly around he observed the opening about three feet above his head; and gaining it by a desperate spring, he drew himself up by the hands and plunged into the passage. Urged by the dread of the coming explosion he rushed eagerly onward, and just as the roar of the blast filled his ears he fell headlong forward into a sheet of water, which spread about three feet below the extremity of the passage. He sank beneath the surface and when he rose, confused and breathless, it was to find himself floating in utter darkness without the slightest idea of the point by which he had entered, and with hardly a chance of discovering the opening, which lay so high above the water. A more horrible situation can hardly be conceived. Still, even in this extremity, hope did not desert him. After some reflection, he fixed upon the direction in which he judged the passage to be, and swam carefully towards it. He was soon convinced, by the space passed over, that he was mistaken in his judgment; but considering it better to keep on until he found the wall than to waste his strength in swimming about at random, he proceeded steadily forward for a distance, as he judged, of nearly two hundred yards. At length he encountered the wall, which rose perpendicularly far above his head, as he found by the splash of the water which he threw against it. Coasting along it, and occasionally touching it with one hand, he advanced for about a hundred yards further, by which time his limbs were becoming stiff and benumbed in the ice-cold water, and his heart had almost failed him. But he was not destined to perish thus. He suddenly came upon a passage, the opening of which was a little lower than the surface of the water.

It was evident from this fact, as well as from the size of the passage, that it could not be that by which he had entered. However, it offered him at least a respite from death, and he promptly availed himself of it. After sitting motionless for a time to recover from the exhaustion of his recent efforts, he rose and proceeded to explore the passage. It proved to be a sort of vaulted chamber, of about his own height, and just wide enough for him to touch its sides with his outstretching hands. A soul-cheering idea suddenly flashed upon his mind. There was a tradition of an ancient *socabon*, or adit, which had been driven through the mountain to effect the drainage of the old mine at San Adrian When the mine was abandoned, the adit, of course, was no longer attended to; its external opening became closed up, and in the space of more than two hundred years which had passed, its present locality—indeed, everything but the mere fact of its existence—was forgotten. Manuel well remembered to have one day heard Don Jayme say to a Mexican gentleman who accompanied him on a former visit to the mine, that he should consider the discovery of the *socabon* an inestimable service, as it would probably save the company an immense expense for drainage in their new works.

The further the miner advanced the more assured he became of the truth of his supposition. The adit was—as from its situation it must necessarily be—of great length; and Manuel walked, as he supposed nearly five hundred yards before reaching the extremity. The water all the way was just up to his ankles, and he thought he could perceive at times that it had a slight current in the direction in which he was going. The passage was closed, as he had anticipated, by a solid mass of earth and stones, which he at once set about removing. Making good use of his long knife, he worked indefatigably for more than an hour. At last he struck the roots of a tree, a circumstance of which assured him that he was approaching the surface. The conviction gave him renewed strength. He cut with his knife and dug with his torn and bleeding hands, until, at length, a lucky push, loosened a large stone which was enclosed between two of the roots of the tree. It fell forward, and the bright rays of heaven poured in upon his dazzled and enchanted vision. He felt a thrill of delight such as one entombed before his time might experience when the doors of his sepulchre flew outward, and gave him back once more to warmth and light. With a little additional labor he enlarged the aperture, until he was able to force himself through it. But what was his astonishment, when at length he stood under the open sky, to find that he was in the exact spot in which he had taken his noontide meal only a few hours before!

A moment's consideration cleared up the mystery. The fountain was no natural spring, but simply the place of exit for the waters which slowly accumulate in the mine, and percolated through the mass of rocks, earth, and vegetation, that closed the entrance on the adit. So exact, however, was the resemblance to an ordinary mountain spring, that this was no doubt, the main cause of the locality of the old *socabon* having fallen into oblivion; since nobody, of course, dreamed of looking for it in the vicinity of a fountain. It was clear to the young miner that he had made a discovery of great importance to the company. With this thought in his mind, and eager to inform his friends of his wonderful escape, he set out at once up the mountain.

He was fated, however, not to reach the *galera* without encountering yet another very remarkable adventure. But before describing this, it will be necessary to relate briefly the events that had occurred at the shaft during the time he had spent in the mine. Don Jayme, after laboring for nearly an hour in his useless search, and being excessively puzzled by the complete disappearance of the body which he could in no possible way account for, had left the task of further examination to the miners, and ascended the shaft in great perplexity. Presently a new cause and anxiety came to disturb him. The news of the dreadful accident, as it was considered, had spread to the village of San Adrian, and reached at last poor Margarita. Hurrying in a frenzy of agonized excitement up the mountain, she suddenly presented herself before the director, as he was walking up and down the *galera*, with his hands behind him, in the true English style of moody meditation.

"Where is my husband—my Manuel!" she exclaimed in a peremptory tone. "I know he is here with you. It is all a joke to frighten me. What have I done that you wish to torment me in this way! Tell me, senor, for charity, where is my husband?"

"Would to God it were a joke my dear young woman," replied the director. "It is unhappily too true."

Margarita, notwithstanding the agitation of her mind, saw that he spoke in earnest. Her thoughts immediately took another direction.

"Dead! dead!" she exclaimed, "and how did he die! who has killed him! It never was his own fault. No, my Manuel was not a drunkard. My Manuel was not reckless. If he died, it was not by his own hand. Show me the murderer that I may call vengeance on him."

"My poor child," replied the director, "there is no murderer. There was carelessness, but no crime."

"Never tell me that, Don Jayme," replied the excited woman, all her Creole blood flushing in her cheek and sparkling in her eyes. "My Manuel was no sot, no madman, to throw away his life like Pedro Bravo. If he is dead, I accuse Miguel Gomez of his murder. There stands the villain—look in his face and judge. It was only a year ago, a little while before Manuel and I were married, that he offered the *corgudor* Pedraza the post of captain of the gallery if he would come behind Manuel and push him off the Rinconada. Answer me Juan Pedraza, before the great God who see and hears us, is it not true?"

Juan Pedraza, a miserable looking man, with a face haggard from the effects of habitual intoxication, hung down his head and made no reply. Gloomy silence ensued, which was at length broken by Don Jayme, who said:

"Gomez, this affair begins to look serious for you. I am not your judge, but it is my duty to see that he undergoes strict investigation. Perez—and you, Fancisco,—I give the accused into your charge. See that he does not escape, and bring him before the alcade to-morrow morning, when all present will attend the examination."

The nervous anxiety which had been depicted on the countenance of the overseer ever since the explosion, now suddenly gave way to an expression of ferocious determination.

"Stand off!" he exclaimed, drawing his knife; "back for your lives! I am innocent of Manuel's death; but I will not stay to have my life sworn away by heretic Jews, spiteful women, and drunken villains. Out of the way, Perez! Follow me at yonr peril."

With these words he darted out of the *galera*, and fled down the mountain at a pace that defied pursuit.

At this moment, Manuel, whose strength had nearly been exhausted by his labor in the mine, was painfully ascending the difficult path. He had nearly reached the Rinconada, and had paused for an instant to take breath, when a man suddenly turned the corner before him at full speed. It was Michael Gomez. He held in one hand a drawn knife, and looked backward over his shoulder as if expecting to be pursued. But when, on turning his head, he beheld directly before him the figure of his victim standing motionless, with pallid face and bloody hands, eyes steadily fixed upon him, he recoiled with a cry of horror and affright.—Whether it was a mere accident from the dizziness of the sudden shock, or whether it was an excess of suicidal frenzy, can never be known; but the unhappy wretch disappeared from the sight of the horror-stricken beholder, one last scream of despair ascending as the criminal shot downward to his frightful and inevitable doom.

Manuel, overcome by a sickening weakness, leaned against the steep side of the mountain, and wiped away the cold perspiration which gathered on his brow; then summoning all his strength, he hurried forward and managed to reach the *galera*. His entrance, as may be supposed, was the cause of great agitation. Most of those present recoiled and crossed themselves in terror, though not so extensive as that of the miserable Gomez. One person, however, sprang forward with a laugh of hysteric delight, and exclaimed.—

"Ah, Manuelito, you are alive! I knew it was all a joke upon your poor little wife!"—And with these words the overjoyed Margarita fell upon her husband's neck and fainted away in his arms.

I need only add to the foregoing narrative, that Don Manuel Campos, the present manager of the new mine of San Adrian, will receive with great hospitality, at his house in Zacatecas, any English traveller who may pass through that city, and will, if desired, relate all the particulars of the remarkable accident to which he was mainly indebted for his rise in the world.—Dona Margarita, his very lady-like wife, will confirm the account by her own testimony, and by the additional token of a long-haired, black-eyed urchin, some five or six years old, bearing the identical name of Adriano, in commemoration of the event which happened shortly before his birth: so that the essential truth of the story may be considered as established beyond the possibility of doubt.

THE WANDERER'S RETURN.

AIR—OLD VIRGINY'S SHORE.

The day was gone, the night was dark,
And the h-wling winds went by,
And the binding sleet fell thick and fast
From a stern and stormy sky,
When a mournful wail, through the rushing gale,
Was heard at the cottage door—
Oh! carry me back! Oh! carry me back
To my mother's home once more.

'T was a youth who had left his mountain home,
And had wandered far and long;
He had drained the goblet's fiery tide,
At the festal midnight throng.
But a dream of home came o'er his heart,
As he crept to the cottage door—
Oh carry me back! Oh! carry me back
To my mother's home once more.

I have left the hall of the tempter's power,
And the revel wild and high—
They cared not in their reckless mirth
If I wandered alone to die.
Doth the fire still burn on the household hearth
By the elm tree near the door?
Oh! carry me back! Oh! carry me back
To my mother's home once more.

Like the weary bird that has wandered long,
I will seek my mountain nest,
And lay this aching head once more
On my gentle mother's breast.
Once more will I seek the household hearth,
By the elm tree near the door.
Oh! carry me back! Oh! carry me back
To my mother's home once more.

THE HUNGARIANS. The North American Review says that the Magyars have fallen, and left few to lament their fate, excepting the Red Republicans of France and Germany, and the Polish refugees, that they have fallen in attempting to preserve their feudal institutions, their supremacy as a race, and their national independence against the reformations demanded by the spirit of the age, against the equality of political rights demanded by their ancient subjects, and against that union with Austria which is a necessity of their geographical position. In this a correct statement of their case? We believe not. Nearly a year before the war began, the Hungarian diet had abolished the distinction of races and the inequality of rights which marked their ancient system, while the landholders granted to the tenantry, in full ownership, a fourth part of all their estates, so say accounts. We must also remember that Kossuth, the great chief of the insurrection, had previously been imprisoned for three years by the Austrian government, for attempting to establish a free press.

We must also remember that he was not a great land owner, but a poor lawyer, whose whole efforts, before the war, were directed against exclusive privileges and irresponsible government. We must also remember that the constitution granted to Austria by its government, was extorted at the point of the bayonet by the German democrats, and that, ever since the government recovered from its fright, it has been violating this constitution by reducing the privileges which it granted. We leave the North American Review to explain how the Austrian government has conformed to the spirit of the age, by calling in the Cossacks to subdue its own subjects, by employing Windishgratz and Haynau to butcher them after surrender, and by scourging, hanging and shooting women and children. To our apprehension, such things seem more consistent with the spirit which characterized the ages of Jenghis Khan and Timour.

About the union of Hungary with Austria as a geographical necessity, we are not quite so well convinced as the North American Review. But we see an ethnological and political necessity for the union of Austria proper with Germany, and of all the Selavonic races in one nation, as a barrier against the Cossacks. We admit that the Red Republicans and the refugee Poles were the only allies of the Hungarians. This merely proves that the Democrats of France, Germany and Poland sympathized with the Republicans of Hungary, while the Houses of Hapsburg and Hoengalcom, the petty princes of Germany, the aristocracy of England, the pretender to an *umpire* in France, and his Gauls who broke into Rome to crush its newly born liberty, sympathized with the Cossacks. The North American Review has the democratic right to choose its political associates, and has chosen the representatives of the dark ages. We, having the same right, prefer associates a little more progressive. [Philadelphia Ledger.

OBEYING ORDERS.

Many years ago, there lived in Western Pennsylvania, General —— a revolutionary worthy, who had done the State some service. He united with the courage and chivalry of the soldier, an impetuous and positive temper which brooked no contradiction of his word, or disobedience of his orders. Ploughing one day on his farm, one of his horses became restive and unmanageable, whereupon the testy Cincinnatus struck him so violently on the head, that the animal fell lifeless at his feet. On seeing a favorite steed, lately full of life and spirit, stretched on the ground, his rage was changed to regret and self-reproach; but knowing nothing better to be done, he disengaged the harness and went to the house. He sent for a fellow who did odd jobs about the neighborhood, to go into the field where he would find the horse, and skin him forthwith and take his hide to the tanners.

"What! Old Roney dead!" inquired the man.

"Dead or alive, what's that your business!" exclaimed the General, with characteristic violence; "go do as I bid you, and never ask me questions."

The man accordingly went to his business, and after a considerable time returned for his pay.

"Well, Jake, what do you ask!"

"Why, only 75 cents, Gineral."

"Seventy-five thunders! I'll not pay it."

"But stop a bit, Gineral, it is 'nt much, considering all the trouble. I do 'nt ax for the skinning alone, but then such a work as I had to catch—"

"Fire and furies! Jake!—catch him—was Roney alive!"

"Aye, Gineral, alive and kicking; and a pretty hot chase I had to give him 'round the field, before I got a chance to knock him down."

"What! you scoundrel, did you kill him!" exclaimed the veteran bursting with rage.

"Yes, sir; you know I could not skin him alive!"

"You diabolical villian, I'll kill you!"

"Oh! do'nt Gineral, do'nt," cried Jake, effecting a retreat; "there's no law as far as I know, against killing your horse, though it mought be murder if you kill me. Besides, you know, I always obey military orders."

TREASURY REPORT.

[Continued from first page.]

which the foreign manufacturer is placed by the necessity in some branches of procuring his raw material from a great distance, or transporting a heavy article of production (such as iron) to a distant market. In addition, he is pressed by a heavy burthen of taxation. The greater efficacy of our labor is to some extent an additional compensatory element. This includes the greater capacity for acquiring skill, the superior general intelligence, the higher inventive faculty, the greater moral and physical energy, both of action and endurance, which our people possess in comparison with the foreign laborer. Better fed, clothed, housed, and educated—conscious of the ability to lay up some capital annually from his savings—encouraged to invest that capital in the enterprise in which his labor is engaged—enjoying practically greater civil and political liberty, looking forward to an indefinite future in which, through his own good conduct and example, he may expect each successive generation of his descendants to be better circumstanced than its predecessors, it cannot be doubted that these advantages add greatly to the efficiency of the American laborer. The precise extent to which they go towards compensating the difference of the price of labor, it is difficult to define. The efficiency of our labor may be expected to increase with the increase of reward to the laborer. In many of the New England factories the laborers are encouraged to invest their surplus earnings in the stock of the company by which they are employed, and are thus stimulated, by direct personal interest, to the greatest exertion. It may be expected that this system will be introduced into other branches in which it may be found practicable, tending, as it does, so powerfully to elevate the laborer, increase production, and practically instruct all men in the great truth of the essential harmony of capacity and labor.

3. Capital flows freely at home and abroad in every productive channel in which it can flow safely, and will even incur great hazards, if they be such as his owner may hope to meet by the care and circumspection of himself or others to whom he has confided its management. But if he knows that skill, industry and economy cannot avail him, and that, in addition to all the contingencies of rivalry and markets, he is to be further exposed to danger arising from causes quite beyond his control or counteraction, he will hold back. The vacillations which have occurred in our policy have no doubt deterred a large amount of capital from investment in industrial pursuits. The encouragement offered in one day, and on the faith of which fixed investments have been made, which are exposed to lose by the withdrawal of that encouragement on the next, is in fact substantial discouragement. And the insecurity resulting from the repetition of such acts has been seriously detrimental.

4th. The fluctuations in the foreign markets have for many years been such as seem to denote an unhealthy and feverish state of business.—They are not in the natural course of a wholesome trade. They seem to betoken a change in existing arrangements, and the apprehension of such change is also evinced in the efforts now making in England to sustain the British manufacturer, by putting at hazard other important branches of industry. The competition of new establishments with very large ones already in existence abroad, and in which the price of labor is lower, is evidently not an equal competition. The capital fixed in machinery, furnaces, &c., cannot be changed, and the work of production will not cease until the price shall have been reduced to a point very little above the cost of materials, labor, and repairs. Of course where the lower price is paid for labor there will be a larger margin for reduction by the sacrifice of part of the profit; and where a great accumulation is in hand of the avails of the business of former years, the owner may find it his interest for a while to sell his commodity at less than the actual cost, if by that means he can drive out his rival, looking, of course, to subsequent reimbursement (at least) when he shall again have the control of the market.

This known necessity of the position of foreign manufactures of course tends to discourage new as well as to defeat the successful operation of existing investments of capital here in similar enterprises.

To counteract the influence of these unfavorable circumstances, which, so long as they continue, must greatly retard our advancement, limit our foreign commerce, and prevent the due progress of industry, I propose that the duties on the staple commodities, (whether raw material or manufactured articles,) in which foreign nations compete with our own productions, be raised to a point at which they will afford substantial and sufficient encouragement to our domestic industry, provide for the necessary increase and due security of the revenue, and ensure the permanence and stability of the system. Experience has, I think, shown this to be a wise, just, and effectual mode to promote new, and revive languishing branches of industry, provided the selection of the objects be wisely made, and limited to those productions for which the country is naturally adapted.

We have been perhaps too long hesitating and vacilating on the threshold of a great career. The want of stability in the course of legislation, and other other disturbing causes, have heretofore occasioned inconveniences. The short duration of some of the tariff acts—the great expansion of the currency which occurred during their operation—the Compromise act, (a result of what was believed to be a political necessity,) which, whatever its effects on existing establishments, undoubtedly discouraged new adventurers—and finally the unexpected repeal of the act of 1842—these circumstances have certainly been of a retarding character.

Yet it is impossible not to observe that, at every favorable moment, vast movements in advance have been made, and that the ground thus gained has not been entirely lost. It is believed that every article, the manufacture of which has been established here, has, after that establishment, continued gradually to diminish in price, and that, without a corresponding reduction in the wages of labor, which, indeed, could not be diminished by reason of an increased demand for it. Statements are annexed, marked (L), exhibiting some instances of this result.

These facts lead irresistibly to the conclusion that our labor becomes so much more efficient by use, acquired skill, enlarged establishments, and new facilities derived from invention; that the difference in price between it and the foreign labor, however serious an obstacle to successful competition, will become less so with every year of our activity in the same branches of industry; and that it by no means follows that labor must be worse paid because its products are sold cheaper; or that because labor is better paid, its products must be sold dearer.

All that is wanting is a general determination that industry shall be encouraged and supported in the home production and manufacture of iron, wool, cotton, sugar, and our other staples, and that the legislation necessary to sustain it shall be firmly adopted and persevered in.

I will proceed to state the nature of the modifications which it appears expedient to make in the existing tariff, and, if required, will hereafter present a plan in detail.

1. The rates of duty are, in my opinion, too low, especially on articles similar to our own staples. I conceive that the revenue has suffered materially from this circumstance. Indeed, I am compelled to believe that it would have been greatly diminished but for the extraordinary demand for our breadstuffs and provisions, produced by the famine in Europe in 1847, and to a great extent continued by the short crop abroad in 1848. (See statement marked M, hereto annexed.) Even under these favorable circumstances, the average revenue from woollens, cottons, hempen goods, iron, sugar, hemp unmanufactured, salt and coal, has fallen under the act of 1846 from $14,162,607 to $13,392,624 50, taking the average from the receipts of 1845-'46, and those of 1848-'49; being an average diminution of $769,982 50, as will be seen by table marked (N), hereunto annexed, the loss of annual revenue being as follows:

On cottons	$618,894 00
On hempen goods	61,794 50
On sugar	161,741 50
On salt	845,438 00
On coal	76,030 00
	$1,560,898 00

The gain as follows:

On woollens	$355,592 50
On iron	415 240 00
On hemp manufactured	40,083 00
	$810,915 50

The very small increase on the staples of woollens, iron, and unmanufactured hemp, compared with the vast injury occasioned to our production and the diminution thereby of our power of consumption, cannot fail to attract attention—while on the other articles named, the revenue and production have both suffered materially. It is believed that the revenue could be greatly increased by increasing the duties on these and other articles.

2. I propose a return to the system of specific duties on articles on which they can be conveniently laid. The effects of the present ad valorem system are two-fold, viz: on the revenue, and on our own productions. Experience has I think demonstrated, that looking exclusively to the revenue, a specific duty is more easily assessed, more favorable to commerce, more equal and less exposed to frauds, than any other system. Of course such a duty is not laid without reference to the average cost of the commodity. This system obviates the difficulties and controversies which attend an appraisement of the foreign market value of each invoice, and it imposes an equal duty on equal quantities of the same commodity. Under the ad valorem system, goods of the same kind and quality, and between which there cannot be a difference in value in the same market at any given time, nevertheless may often pay different amounts of duty. Thus the hazards of trade are unnecessarily increased.

To levy an ad valorem duty on a foreign valuation equably, at the different ports, is believed to be impossible. That the standard of value at any two ports is precisely the same at any given time, is wholly improbable. The facilities afforded to frauds upon the revenue are very great, and it is apprehended that such frauds have been and are habitually and extensively practised. The statements annexed, marked (O), to which I invite special attention, exhibit in a strong light the dangers to which this system is necessarily exposed.

As the standard of value at every port must at last depend upon the average of the invoices that are passed there, every successful attempt at under-valuation renders more easy all that follow it. The consequences are, not only that the revenue suffers, that a certain sum is in effect annually given by the public among dishonest importers, as a premium for their dishonesty, but that fair American importers may be gradually driven out of the business, and their places supplied by unknown and unscrupulous foreign adventurers. As long ago as 1801, Mr. Gallatin urged the extension of specific duties on the ground now repeated—of the prevention of under-valuation. In his report of that year, he used the following language:—"Without any view to an increase of revenue, but in order to guard, as far as possible, against the value of goods being underrated in the invoice, it would be eligible to lay specific duties on all such articles now paying duties ad valorem as may be susceptible of that alteration." At that time specific duties were already laid on spirits and wines, sugar, molasses, tea, coffee, salt, pepper, steel, nails and spikes, hemp, coal, cordage, and several other articles.

The 8th section of the act of 30th July, 1846, made it the duty of the collector, within whose district merchandise may be imported or entered, to cause the dutiable value of such imports to be appraised, estimated, and ascertained in accordance with the provisions of existing laws.

By the 2d section of the act of 10th August, 1846, it is provided that, "in appraising all goods at any port of the United States, heretofore subjected to specific duties, but upon which ad valorem duties are imposed by the act of the thirtieth July last, entitled An act reducing the duties on imports and for other purposes, reference shall be had to values and invoices of similar goods imported during the last fiscal year, under such general and uniform regulations for the prevention of frauds or undervaluations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury."

It will be observed that these last recited provisions do not authorize the levying of duties on the value of similar merchandise in any preceding year, but merely a reference to such value and the invoices, for the purpose of aiding in the ascertainment of the value at the time fixed by existing laws. That time was, by circular issued by my predecessor, dated 6th July, 1847, determined to be the time of the shipment of the goods. My predecessor issued three circulars, calling the attention of the officers of the customs to the provisions of the 2d section of the act of 10th August, 1846; one dated the 11th and one the 25th November, 1846, and the last the 26th December, 1848, and, there can be no doubt, exhausted all practicable means for preventing undervaluations and frauds, so far as they could be checked by Treasury instructions and regulation. These efforts have been continued by the Department: but the radical faults of the system are such that no vigilance, sagacity, or regulations, it is believed, have been, or can be found effectual for the purpose.

In England it is believed to have long been a settled point that specific or rated duties (which are ad valorem on an assumed value,) are in every respect better for revenue and trade than any other system.

The effect of the existing system on production is also striking. See document marked ( ) annexed. It tends to aggravate the great fluctuations in price which are so injurious to trade as well as industry.

When prices abroad are very high, the duty is high also; and when they fall to a very low point, the duty is low in proportion. It is a sliding scale of the worst kind. If the duty forms a part of the price, it renders the extremes of fluctuation more remote from each other by a percentage on the range equal to the rate of the duty. If the fluctuation abroad be from $50 to $20, the range is of course $30. A specific duty of $15 would leave the range still $30. But at an ad valorem of 30 per cent, the highest point would be $65, and the lowest $26, making a range of $39. On every account I strongly recommend a return to the system of specific duties on all articles to which they can be conveniently applied.

[Remainder next week.]

MARSHAL TUKEY ON PICKPOCKETS.

A young man, but an old thief, named Dennis Scanlan, was arrainged before Justice Cushing in the Police Court, yesterday. The charge preferred against Scanlan was of having picked the pocket of a young woman named Catherine Linton, in an auction room on Friday last. The charge was fully sustained by the evidence of officer Starkweather, who arrested the prisoner, and by other testimony, and the judge was about to pass judgment, when Marshal Tukey arose and addressed the Court as follows:—

May it please your Honor—I am directed by his Honor the Mayor of the city of Boston, to lay before this Court a few facts in relation to pickpockets and particularly to this defendant. This is the FIFTH time that Dennis Scanlan has been arrested for the crime of picking pockets since the first of April last. In the first instance of his arrest, he was convicted and fined $15 and costs. The second time, he was sent four months to the House of Correction. He did not enjoy his freedom more than two weeks, before he was arrested, convicted, and sentenced to two months in the House of Correction. November 7th he was again arrested for picking a lady's pocket of a purse containing $5. He was tried, convicted, and fined $4 and costs. The lady who owned the purse stated that there was a five dollar bill in it when she lost it; and officer Starkweather found in one of the defendant's hands a five dollar bill, and in the other the purse. Now, as this five dollar bill was not found in the purse, and as the lady had no means of identifying it from any other note of the same denomination, it was not proved that it was the identical note—although there was no doubt in my mind or that of the arresting officer, of its being such. Consequently the fellow took that note, and adding to it a small amount, paid the fine and costs, and was again at liberty to rob the first lone woman he should meet.

And, now again, this rogue is arrested for a similar crime—picking a lady's pocket. And, if your Honor please, a word as to this class of criminals. There is none so difficult to detect or convict, because of the difficulty of identifying money; for I think, there is not more than one man out of an hundred who can identify money which he has had about his person. And of these thieves there are several classes:—There is one class who work entirely on the breast pockets—another who devote themselves to the side pockets—another who attend to the outside coat pockets—and finally another class who do nothing but rob females,—and this prisoner is of this latter class, who are certainly the worst class of thieves our citizens can be annoyed with.—They assumes various guises, attend the auction rooms, where poor women at times resort